

PENNY-WISE

© The Official Publication of Early American Coppers, Inc.



Volume XLIII Number 6

November 2009

Consecutive Issue #255

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National Officers

President: Denis Loring (dwloring@aol.com)
Box 32115, Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33420
Vice President: Bim Gander (bimgander@cox.net)
12770 NW Steelhead Falls Drive, Terrebonne, OR 97760
Secretary: John Kraljevich (jkamericana@gmail.com)
PO Box 237188, New York NY 10023-7188
Treasurer: Chuck Heck (check48@comcast.net)
P.O. Box 3498, Lantana, FL 33465
Editor of Penny-Wise: Harry E. Salyards (hpsalyar@tcgcs.com)
606 N. Minnesota Ave., Hastings, NE 68901

National Positions

Membership Chairman: Rod Burress
9743 Leacrest, Cincinnati, OH 45215
Historian: Mark Borckhardt (markb@heritagegalleries.com)
1625 Warm Springs Dr., Allen, TX 75002

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Webmaster: H. Craig Hamling (info@eacs.org)

The Board of Governors is composed of the 5 National Officers and the 8 Regional Chairmen.

Penny-Wise has been published every two months since September 1967. Its founding editor was Warren A. Lapp (1915-1993). Harry E. Salyards has served as Editor-in-Chief since 1986. Contributing Editors: Denis W. Loring, John D. Wright and William R. Eckberg.

Printed by Advance Graphics and Printing, Chandler, OK.

INTRODUCTION BY THE EDITOR: GRADING BY BAR CODE

Harry E. Salyards

There's been quite a bit in the general numismatic press, recently, about a new kind of "sandwich" coin: an obverse and reverse from separate coins, planed off and cemented together in a counterfeit slab—*Voila!* Instant rarity! This of course is a very old alteration game; only the slab to conceal the edge tampering is new.

But what really got me, in an October 19 *Coin World* report, is that such a concocted "1903-S" Morgan dollar, when purchased by a dealer at the Whitman Philadelphia Expo, never raised any suspicion—until "the slab would not scan properly."

Yes, friends, we've moved beyond the "commoditization" of the failed, "sight-unseen" market that slabs were supposed to provide—beyond buying the number on the holder without scrutinizing the coin—to a different kind of commoditization: merely *scanning* the thing into inventory! Let's restock with ten crates of peaches, 500 pounds of potatoes, and 1000 Mint State 1881-Ss. (Don't worry—there's close to 6 million of the latter to choose from.)

The numismatist in me asks—as merely a *very* amateur observer of Morgan dollars—does a *real* 1903-S commonly have a reverse that looks like an 1881-S (assuming that's what the 'host' reverse came from)? And if the answer is no, shouldn't that raise a *teeny* little red flag with the prospective purchaser? Apparently not in some quarters.

But then, this isn't really about numismatics, is it? It's about *selling stuff*—big and shiny and slabbed *stuff*—the very opposite of what we collect. No one will ever make commodities of the few hundred Nichols Find cents, or even the several thousand 1818 N-10s. 150 years of collecting interest have seen to their wide dispersal, one coin here and one coin there. More commonly, we talk about "hoard coins" as in something like the 1803 S-254—where there were, *presumptively*, once—what?—maybe several *dozen* Mint State coins. But again, five *generations* of dispersal among thousands of collectors of eclectic interests, serve as an *absolute guarantee* that you'll never see them appear as "the Investment Coin of the Month." There simply aren't enough 'shares' to peddle to all the eager investors. And you can't do a stock split on an 1818 N-10!

This wide dispersal of the coins, however, also carries a cost—albeit what *should* be a pleasurable one: that we *learn* how to grade—that we *learn* by our own observations of rarity, which coins are still over- (or under-) priced—that we become *students* of what the coin can teach us, even if—*particularly if*—our conclusions fly in the face of whatever some guru has previously published on the subject. And—speaking selfishly, perhaps—that we *share* those conclusions in the pages of *Penny-Wise*.

* * * * *

THE HISTORY OF SUGAR ALLEY

Al Boka

Editor's Note: For those of you whose interest begins and ends with the coin itself, this may seem too far afield to be relevant. But for those of you who want to understand the *context* in which the coin was struck, back in the day when a *manu-factory* was just that—a place where items were fashioned by hand—and people *lived where they worked*—this splendid contribution should be one to savor.

* * *

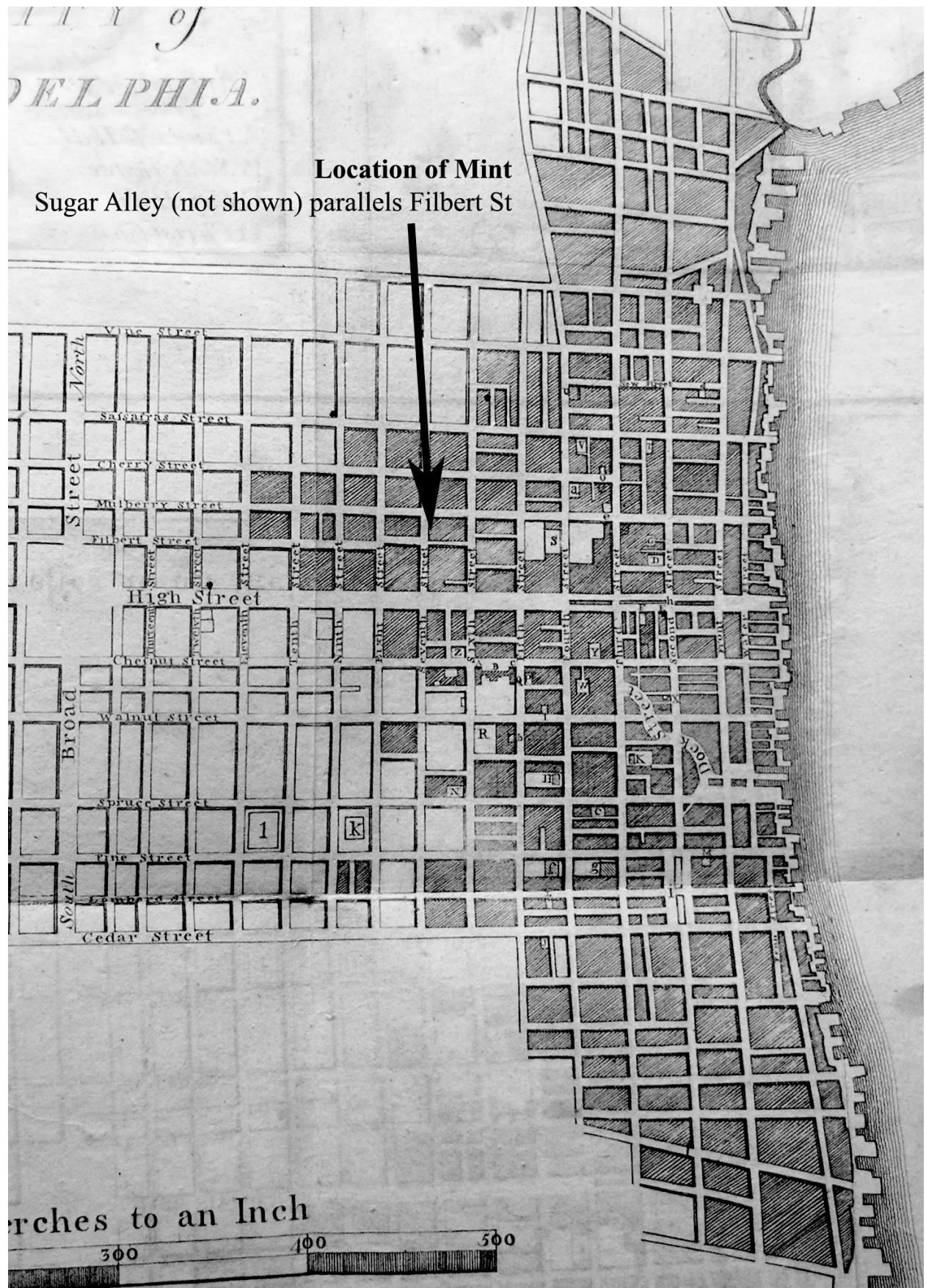
I believe that many large cent aficionados carry a degree of curiosity regarding the history surrounding their pursuits. For me, there has been a longtime fascination about those who may have handled my cents since their striking two centuries ago. How did they live? What did they do for a living? What was everyday life like for the early users of large cents?

The first U. S. Mint began production in 1793, sadly timed with one of the worst disasters to ever affect our country—the great Yellow Fever epidemic. Of an estimated 55,000 population, Philadelphians suffered more than 4000 agonizing deaths. Hardly an inhabitant was unaffected. The “mysterious fever” claimed the life of the newly hired mint engraver, Joseph Wright, creator of my favorite design, the Liberty Cap. Wright, an artisan from Bordentown, New Jersey, began work in August 1793, produced the Liberty Cap design, contracted the “fever,” and died by the end of the month—most likely before seeing any of his pieces actually struck.

I have often pondered the 1920 painting by Edwin Lamazure depicting the first U. S. Mint buildings and questioned whether they were truly situated in the bucolic, green setting thereupon portrayed. My curiosity has led to a sort of obsession with the environs of the early Mint—wondering if, in fact, there were no buildings in the area, only fields of green.

Briefly, using city directories from 1785, 1791, and 1794, this is what I found, after an analysis of only one street—Sugar Alley, on which the Mint buildings sided:

- There were at least 72 addresses on the approximately 700 feet of Sugar Alley running east and west between Sixth and Eighth Streets. In 1794, the inhabited area of Philadelphia extended only about two short blocks north beyond Eighth Street.
- The census takers were prone to misspelling names. Illiteracy must have been quite high—thus, the need for a fraction on the cents.
- The census takers did not always get the addresses right; some varied between 1791 and 1794.
- People were quite mobile: only about 10 could be confirmed as inhabitants there in both 1791 and 1794.
- Common occupations were labourer [*sic*], butcher, potter, blacksmith, taylor [*sic*], and “widow.”
- At least three occupants were confirmed dead from Yellow Fever in 1793.



THE
PHILADELPHIA
D I R E C T O R Y
AND
REGISTER:

CONTAINING
THE NAMES, OCCUPATIONS, AND PLACES OF ABODE OF
THE CITIZENS; ARRANGED IN ALPHABET-
ICAL ORDER:

A REGISTER
OF THE EXECUTIVE, LEGISLATIVE, AND JUDICIAL
MAGISTRATES OF THE UNITED STATES AND THE
STATE OF PENNSYLVANIA, WITH THEIR SA-
LARIES; THE GOVERNORS OF THE DIF-
FERENT STATES, AND THE MAGIS-
TRATES OF THE CITY:

TO WHICH IS ADDED,
A SHORT ACCOUNT OF THE CITY; AND OF THE CHA-
RITABLE AND LITERARY INSTITUTIONS
THEREIN.

THE SECOND EDITION.

By JAMES HARDIE, A. M.

PHILADELPHIA:
Printed for the Author, by JACOB JOHNSON & CO. No.
147, Market-Street.
M DCC XCIV.
[Price 62 1-2 Cents.]

John Maclean Pintard, consul, Maderia.
John Street, vice consul, Fayal.

IN THE DOMINIONS OF DENMARK.

Hans Rudolph Sæbye, consul, Copenhagen.
Henry Cooper, Santa Cruz.

MOROCCO.

Thomas Barclay, consul.

IN GERMANY.

John Parrish, consul, Hamburg.
Arnold Deitz, consul, Bremen.
Philip Marck, consul, Franconia.

ITALY.

Peter Felicity, consul, Leghorn.

IN THE EAST INDIES.

Benjamin Joy, consul, Calcutta.

The sum of 40,000 dollars is appropriated annually for the service of such persons as may be appointed to serve the United States in foreign parts.

The outfit of a minister must not exceed one year's salary.

The annual salary of a plenipotentiary must not exceed 9,000, that of his secretary 1,350, and that of a chargé d'affaires 4,500 dollars.



MINISTERIAL & CONSULAR APPOINTMENTS BY FOREIGN POWERS TO THE UNITED STATES.

BY THE FRENCH REPUBLIC.

Citizen *Joseph Fauchet*, minister plenipotentiary &c.
La Ferrière, consul general.
J. B. Ferry, consul at Philadelphia.
Arambal, vice consul at New York.
Danet, consul at Boston.
Paul Thomas, vice consul at Baltimore.
Cheruy, vice consul, Alexandria.
Oller, vice consul at Norfolk.
Foufournier, vice consul at Charleston [S. C.]

By SPAIN.

Don Joseph de Jaudenot, envoy extraordinary & com-

missary general of the royal armies of Spain.
Don Joseph de Viar, Consul general.
Don Joseph de Santayana, secretary of legation.

By GREAT BRITAIN.

George Hammond, minister plenipotentiary, resident at Philadelphia.
Sir John Temple, Bart. consul general for the Eastern States, resident at New York.
Pinxat Bond, consul general for the middle and southern states, resident at Philadelphia.
Thomas McDonogh, consul for the states of New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, and Connecticut, resident at Boston.
Thomas William Moore, vice consul for Rhode Island, resident at Newport.
Edward Thornton, vice consul for Maryland, resident at Baltimore.
John Hamilton, consul for Virginia, resident at Norfolk.
George Miller, consul for North Carolina, South Carolina, and Georgia, resident at Charleston.
James Shoolbred, vice consul for North Carolina, South Carolina, and Georgia.
Benjamin Moody, vice consul for Georgia, resident at Savannah.

By the UNITED NETHERLANDS.

Francois Van Berckel, minister resident at Philadelphia.
Diederick Leertouwer, consul for the states of New Hampshire and Massachusetts.
Herman Le Roy, consul for the states of New York and New Jersey.
Jan Hendrick Christiaan Heinzecker, consul for the states of Pennsylvania and Delaware.

By SWEDEN.

Richard Soderstrom, consul at Philadelphia.

By PORTUGAL.

Guedes-Frery, minister plenipotentiary.
Ignatius Polyart, consul general at Philadelphia.

By PRUSSIA.

Charles Geddes Polakke.

MINT OF THE UNITED STATES.

29, No. Seventh Street.

An Act was passed in April, 1792, for establishing mint, and regulating the coins of the United States.

The coins to be struck are to be of the following denominations and values.

GOLD COINS

Eagles, each to be of the value of ten dollars, and to contain 247 $\frac{1}{2}$ ths grains pure, or 270 grains of standard gold.

Half-Eagles, each to be of the value of five dollars, and to contain 123 $\frac{1}{2}$ ths grains of pure, or 135 grains of standard gold.

Quarter-Eagles, each to be of the value of two dollars and an half, and to contain 61 $\frac{1}{2}$ ths grains of pure, and 67 $\frac{1}{2}$ ths grains of standard gold.

SILVER COINS.

Dollars or units, each to be of the value of a Spanish milled dollar, and to contain 371 $\frac{1}{2}$ ths grains of pure, or 416 grains of standard silver.

Half-Dollars, each to be of half the value of the dollar or unit, and to contain 185 $\frac{1}{2}$ ths grains of pure, or 208 grains standard silver.

Quarter-Dollars, each to be one fourth of the value of the dollar or unit, and to contain 92 $\frac{1}{2}$ ths grains of pure, or 104 grains of standard silver.

Dimes, each to be the value of one tenth of the dollar or unit, and to contain 37 $\frac{1}{2}$ ths grains of pure, or 41 $\frac{1}{2}$ ths grains of standard silver.

Half-Dimes, each to be of the value of one twentieth of a dollar, and to contain 18 $\frac{1}{2}$ ths grains of pure, or 20 $\frac{1}{2}$ ths grains of standard silver.

By an act of January 14th, 1793, the weight of the cent, and half-cent, is established as follows:

Cents, each of the value of the hundredth part of a dollar, to contain 208 grains, and half cents to contain 104 grains of copper.

A pound of pure gold is valued equal to fifteen pounds pure silver.—Gold coins are to consist of eleven parts pure gold, and one part alloy.

The standard of silver coins shall be 1435 parts fine, and 170 parts alloy.

Persons in possession of bullion may have it coined free of expense.

By an act of May 8th, 1792.—It is enacted, That the cents and half-cent, as they shall be coined, be paid to the treasury of the United States, thence to issue into circulation; and that after the expiration of six calendar

months from the time when these shall have been paid into the treasury a sum not less than 50,000 dollars, in cents and half-cent, (of which notice shall be given in at least two news papers, published at the seat of government,) no other copper coins shall pass as current money, and every person paying, offering to pay, or receiving in payment, any other coin, excepting cents and half-cent, shall forfeit the said coin, and also the sum of ten dollars with costs of suit for the benefit of the person by whom information shall have been given.

Money of account of the United States shall be expressed in dollars or units, dimes or tenths, cents or hundredths, and mills or thousandths; a dime being the tenth of a dollar, a cent the hundredth, and a mill the thousandth. And all accounts in the public offices, and all proceedings in the courts of justice, shall be kept and had in conformity to this act.

A great number of cents have been already issued—some hundreds of dollars have also been coined, and from the most indubitable authority the editor can announce to the public, that a much greater quantity of gold and silver has been deposited for the purpose of coining, than those who were best acquainted with the business at first expected.

Officers of the Mint.

David Rittenhouse, director,—2000 dollars.

Nicholas Wey, treasurer,—1200 dollars.

Henry Voight, chief coiner,—1500 dollars.

Albion Cox, assayer, 1500 dollars.

Robert Scott, engraver,—1200 dollars.

Isaac Hough, chief clerk.

POST-OFFICE, 36, So. Front St.

Establishment of the mails, from the first of January, 1793, to the 1st of June, 1794.

The Eastern Mail will be closed on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays, at noon; and reach New York at ten o'clock in the morning of each succeeding day, except the Mails of Saturdays, which are to arrive at the same hours on Mondays.

The Mails from New York will leave the post office there on the same days at noon; and arrive at Philadelphia on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, Fridays, Saturdays, and Mondays, at ten o'clock, A. M.

SUGAR ALLEY - PHILADELPHIA 1794

Occupied address in both 1791 & 1794 [note that in some cases additional persons occupy the addresses]

Address and occupant not listed in 1791 city directory

Person not listed in 1794 city directory

▲ Individual appeared in the 1785 city directory

▲ Confirmed yellow fever death from 1793 epidemic

1791 OCCUPANT

1794 OCCUPANT and/or REMARKS

| | Occupation | Address | Locale | |
|---------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------|---------------|--|
| Horton John ? | tinman | 2 Sugar Alley | 6th ↔ 8th Sts | James Corney, labourer |
| Snowden Thomas | labourer ["pedlar" in 1794 directory] | 3 Sugar Alley | 6th ↔ 8th Sts | no occupants reported |
| | | 4 Sugar Alley | 6th ↔ 8th Sts | Henry Regnsteir, refiner of wine [room mates?] |
| | | 4 " | 6th ↔ 8th Sts | Charles Young, taylor [room mates?] |
| ▲ Dewetter Conrad ? | painter | 7 Sugar Alley | 6th ↔ 8th Sts | Mary "Tivoter" [Dewetter?], widow |
| Flowers George ? | labourer (child died of yellow fever) | 8 Sugar Alley | 6th ↔ 8th Sts | no occupants reported |
| | | 9 Sugar Alley | 6th ↔ 8th Sts | Nicholas Loffman, butcher |
| | | 10 Sugar Alley | 6th ↔ 8th Sts | Henry Sutter, blacksmith |
| Weaver Michael ? | cordwainer | 11 Sugar Alley | 6th ↔ 8th Sts | Daniel Roberts, hostler [room mates?] |
| | | 11 " | 6th ↔ 8th Sts | John Schuster, potter [room mates?] |
| | | 13 Sugar Alley | 6th ↔ 8th Sts | Phillip Warner, fire bucket maker |
| Stringer Peter | labourer | 14 Sugar Alley | 6th ↔ 8th Sts | no change |
| Keissler Charles ? | labourer | 15 Sugar Alley | 6th ↔ 8th Sts | Edward Glide, labourer |
| | | 15 " | 6th ↔ 8th Sts | John Weaver, house carpenter |
| Hoffner Henry | bricklayer | 17 Sugar Alley | 6th ↔ 8th Sts | listed as Henry "Hawkner" |
| Hoffner Godfrey ? | joiner | 19 Sugar Alley | 6th ↔ 8th Sts | no occupants reported |
| Martin Elizabeth ? | boardinghouse | 20 Sugar Alley | 6th ↔ 8th Sts | no occupants reported |
| | | 21 Sugar Alley | 6th ↔ 8th Sts | John Keighly, blacksmith |
| Briggel Matthias ? | breeches maker | 22 Sugar Alley | 6th ↔ 8th Sts | William Humphreys, scrivener |
| | | 22 " | 6th ↔ 8th Sts | Jacob Miller, carpenter |
| ▲ Beymer Andrew ? | porter | 23 Sugar Alley | 6th ↔ 8th Sts | no occupants reported |
| Stukey Mary | widow | 24 Sugar Alley | 6th ↔ 8th Sts | John Stucky, stocking weaver, (Mary's son?) |
| ▲ Honeycomb Joseph | lace weaver | 28 Sugar Alley | 6th ↔ 8th Sts | listed as labourer |
| Winn Isaac ? | coach maker | 30 Sugar Alley | 6th ↔ 8th Sts | no occupants reported |
| Hyde Andrew ? | blacksmith | 32 Sugar Alley | 6th ↔ 8th Sts | Henry Crotto, labourer |
| Swiler Mary ? | widow | 34 Sugar Alley | 6th ↔ 8th Sts | no occupants reported |
| | * Andrew Miller - at #37 in 1791 | 35 Sugar Alley | 6th ↔ 8th Sts | Andrew Miller, potter |
| ▲ Kinsey Amer | widow | 36 Sugar Alley | 6th ↔ 8th Sts | listed as Gainer Kinsey, widow |
| Miller * Andrew | potter | 37 Sugar Alley | 6th ↔ 8th Sts | John Parks, house carpenter |
| Donnelly Catharine | widow | 38 Sugar Alley | 6th ↔ 8th Sts | listed as simply Donnelly |
| | | 39 Sugar Alley | 6th ↔ 8th Sts | Charles Clayton, coachmaker |
| Clay John ? | carpenter | 40 Sugar Alley | 6th ↔ 8th Sts | Allerdice "widow" |
| | | 41 Sugar Alley | 6th ↔ 8th Sts | John Grures |
| Klein Henry | taylor | 42 Sugar Alley | 6th ↔ 8th Sts | no change |
| Cope Jacob ? | wheelwright | 44 Sugar Alley | 6th ↔ 8th Sts | William Donaldson, coachman |
| Shutter David ? | cordwainer | 46 Sugar Alley | 6th ↔ 8th Sts | John Gams, house carpenter |

| | | | | | |
|----------|-------------|--|---|----------------|--|
| | | | | 6th ↔ 8th Sts | Frederic Link, stonecutter, in 1794 dir. [15 N.6th-1791] |
| Good | John ? | labourer | ? | 51 Sugar Alley | no occupants reported |
| Nonetter | Peter ? | labourer | ? | " " | no occupants reported |
| Fike | Christian ? | cordwainer | ? | " " | no occupants reported |
| Spiegler | George ? | butcher | ? | 53 Sugar Alley | no occupants reported |
| Murchan | John | tinker | | 55 Sugar Alley | no occupants reported |
| Gibson | Nathan ? | gentleman | | 57 Sugar Alley | John Hutts, butcher |
| Houtsell | Christian | labourer [died?] Widow listed at no.62 | | 58 Sugar Alley | George Bigley, butcher |
| | | | | 59 Sugar Alley | Christiana Good, widow - boardinghouse in 1794 dir. |
| | | | | 60 Sugar Alley | see below ↓ |
| | | | | 62 Sugar Alley | Margaret Houtsel, widow |
| | | | | 64 Sugar Alley | William Green, labourer |
| Henekin | Ann ? | spinster | | 66 Sugar Alley | Anthony Barton |
| | Susannah ? | widow | | 68 Sugar Alley | Bernard Webb, asst. clerk US house of representatives |
| Keeckan | John | tavernkeeper | | 70 Sugar Alley | William Weir, labourer |
| | | | | 72 Sugar Alley | no change |
| Harding | Jonathan ? | labourer | | ? Sugar Alley | address not listed in 1794 directory |
| Meyer | Jacob ? | tallowchandler | | ? Sugar Alley | address not listed in 1794 directory |
| West | Mary | widow | | ? Sugar Alley | Listed as residing at "West's Alley" |

FUGIO COPPER DIE STATE STUDY – CONTINUED

Michael S. McLaughlin

NEWMAN DIE 7: FINE RAY DIE.
MERIDIAN SUN ABOVE SUNDIAL
WITH BASE. BELOW BASE IN
EXERGUE IN TWO LINES IS MIND
YOUR ABOVE BUSINESS. ORNA-
BEFORE AND AFTER WORDS IN
EXERGUE. FUGIO TO LEFT AND
1787 TO RIGHT OF SUNDIAL. CIN-
QUEFOILS BEFORE AND AFTER
FUGIO AND DATE.
SIX LOBES IN THIRD CINQUEFOIL
IN EXERGUE: M TILTS RIGHT, N
TILTS RIGHT. INE OF BUSINESS
PROGRESSIVELY LOWER.
CINQUEFOILS: M12.5, H12, H6, H12.5
RARITY 4

DIE STATES

- 7(1) LOT 2417 NASCA 4/81.
- 7(2) DIE BREAK: RIM AT 20 DE-
GREES RADIALLY END-
ING ABOVE AND TO THE
LEFT OF THE GNOMEN'S TIP.
- 7(3) DIE BREAK: RIM AT 185 DE-
GREES RADIALLY TOWARDS
DIE BREAK (2).
- 7(4) DIE BREAK: BREAKS (2) AND (3)
COMBINE.

STRIKE ORDER

| | | |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| 7(1)-T(1) | 7(2)-T(2) | 7(3)-T(6) |
| | BREAK- | -BREAK |
| 7(1)-T(2) | | |
| -BREAK | 7(3)-T(5) | 7(4)-T(6) |
| | -[BREAK] | BREAK- |



NEWMAN 7(1)



NEWMAN 7(2)



NEWMAN 7(4)

NEWMAN DIE 8: FINE RAY DIE.
 MERIDIAN SUN ABOVE SUNDIAL
 WITH BASE. BELOW BASE IN EX-
 ERGUE IN TWO LINES IS MIND
 YOUR ABOVE BUSINESS. ONA-
 MENTS BEFORE AND AFTER
 WORDS IN EXERGUE. FUGIO TO
 LEFT AND 1787 TO RIGHT OF THE
 SUNDIAL. CINQUEFOILS BEFORE
 AND AFTER FUGIO AND THE DATE.
 IN EXERGUE: ORNAMENT OVER
 LEFT EDGE OF I. SECOND AND
 THIRD S DIRECTLY UNDER U AND
 R OF YOUR. CINQ, M11, H11, M11, M1.
 BOTH NEWMAN 8-B, NEWMAN 8-X
 RARITY 3



NEWMAN 8(4)

DIE STATES

8(1)

8(2) DIE BREAK: RIM AT 80 DE-
 GREES TO ABOVE 7 IN DATE.

8(3) DIE BREAK: RIM AT 310 DE-
 GREES RADIALLY THROUGH
 TIPS OF SUN'S RAYS. LOT
 2419 NASCA 4/81.

8(4) DIE CLASH: WITH NEWMAN B.

8(5) DIE BREAK: RIM AT 170 DEGREE
 EXTENDING DIAGONALLY
 THROUGH N AND E OF BUSI-
 NESS, Y AND O OF YOUR,
 THROUGH BASE OF SUNDIAL



NEWMAN 8(5)

STRIKE ORDER

| | | | |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| 8(1)-B(3) | 8(3)-B(3) | 8(4)-B(3) | |
| -[CLASH] | BREAK- | CL-CL | |
| 8(2)-B(3) | 8(3)-B(4) | 8(4)-X(2) | 8(5)-X(2) |
| BREAK- | -BREAK | -[BREAK] | BREAK- |

NEWMAN DIE 9: FINE RAY DIE.
 MERIDIAN SUN WITH FINE RAYS
 ABOVE SUNDIAL WITH BASE. BE-
 LOW IN EXERGUE MIND YOUR ON
 TOP LINE WITH BUSINESS BELOW.
 ORNAMENTS BEFORE AND AFTER
 WORDS IN EXERGUE. FUGIO TO
 LEFT AND 1787 TO RIGHT OF SUN-
 DIAL. CINQUEFOILS BEFORE AND
 AFTER FUGIO AND DATE.
 IN EXERGUE: CENTER OF ORNAMENT
 OVER LEFT EDGE OF I E IS LOW.
 LAST S IS HIGH.
 CINQUEFOILS: M11, M6, M1, M11.
 SUN FACE: OBLONG EYES
 NEWMAN 9-P RARITY 4
 NEWMAN 9-Q RARITY 5
 BOTH NEWMANS 9-S,9-T RARITY 6

DIE STATES

9(1)

9(2) DIE BREAK: SMALL BREAK IN
 FIELD BETWEEN F IN FUGIO
 AND SUNDIAL.

9(3) DIE CLASH: WITH NEWMAN T.
 #25 E.A.N. FPL 1/91.

STRIKE ORDER

| | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|
| 9(1)-Q(1) | 9(1)-P(2) -BREAK | 9(2)-T(3) -[CLASH] |
| 9(1)-Q(2) -BUCKLED | 9(1)-P(3) -BREAK | 9(3)-T(4) CL-CL |
| 9(1)-Q(3) -FAILURE | 9(2)-P(3) BREAK- | 9(3)-T(5) -BREAK |
| 9(1)-P(1) | 9(3)-P(4) CL-CL | 9(3)-S(6) -[BREAK] |



NEWMAN 9(1)



NEWMAN 9(2)



NEWMAN 9(3)

NEWMAN DIE 10: FINE RAY DIE.
 MERIDIAN SUN ABOVE SUNDIAL
 WITH BASE. BELOW BASE IN EX-
 ERGUE IS MIND YOUR ABOVE
 BUSINESS. ORNAMENTS BEFORE
 AND AFTER WORDS IN EXERGUE.
 FUGIO TO LEFT AND 1787 TO RIGHT
 OF SUNDIAL. CINQUEFOILS BEFORE
 AND AFTER FUGIO AND DATE.
 IN EXERGUE: D TILTS LEFT, SECOND
 N IS REPUNCHED.
 CINQUEFOILS: L12.5, M12, L11, H12.
 TYPE: 1 OVER HORIZONTAL 1 .
 NEWMANS 10-G, 10-T RARITY 5
 NEWMAN 10-OO RARITY 8



NEWMAN 10(1)



NEWMAN 10(2)



NEWMAN 10(3)

DIE STATES

- 10(1) LOT 656 PINE TREE 10/75.
- 10(2) DIE CLASH: WITH NEWMAN T.
 LOT 2425 NASCA 4/81.
- 10(3) DIE BREAK: RIM AT 250 DE-
 GREES THROUGH F IN FUGIO.
 LOT 6160 KINGSWOOD GALL-
 IERS 8/90.
- 10(4) DIE CLASH: WITH NEWMAN G.

STRIKE ORDER

| | | |
|------------------------|------------------------|----------------------|
| 10(1)-T(1) | 10(2)-OO(1) | 10(2)-G(2) -BREAK |
| 10(1)-T(2) -[BREAK] | 10(2)-OO(2) - BREAK | 10(3)-G(2) BREAK- |
| 10(2)-T(3) CL-CL | 10(2)-G(1) | 10(4)-G(3) CL-CL |

NEWMAN DIE 11: FINE RAY DIE.
 MERIDIAN SUN WITH FINE RAYS
 ABOVE SUNDIAL WITH BASE. BE-
 LOW BASE IN EXERGUE IN TWO
 LINES IS MIND YOUR OVER BUS-
 INESS. ORNAMENTS BEFORE AND
 AFTER WORDS IN EXERGUE.
 FUGIO TO RIGHT AND 1787 TO LEFT
 OF SUNDIAL. CINQUEFOILS BEFORE
 AND AFTER FUGIO AND DATE.
 IN EXERGUE: CENTER ORNAMENT
 OVER I. RIGHT UPRIGHT OF N HIGH-
 ER THAN D. CINQS: M11, M6, H6, H12.
 NEWMAN 11-A RARITY 6
 BOTH NEWMANS 11-B, 11-X RARITY 4



NEWMAN 11(3)

DIE STATES

- 11(1) LOT 190 STACK'S 5/75.
- 11(2) DIE CLASH: WITH NEWMAN A.
 LOT 112 STACK'S 4/88.
- 11(3) DIE CLASH: WITH NEWMAN A.
 LOT 2426 NASCA 4/81.
- 11(4) DIE INJURY: LOWER RT RAYS.
- 11(5) DIE CLASH: WITH NEWMAN B.
- 11(6) DIE FAILURE: LOWER SUNDIAL,
 BASE AND EXERGUE.



NEWMAN 11(6)

STRIKE ORDER

| | | |
|------------|------------|------------|
| 11(1)-A(1) | 11(3)-A(3) | 11(5)-B(6) |
| | CL-CL | CL-CL |
| 11(2)-A(2) | | |
| CL-CL | 11(3)-A(6) | 11(5)-X(2) |
| | -FAILURE | -[BREAK] |
| 11(2)-A(3) | | |
| -BREAK | 11(3)-B(5) | 11(6)-X(2) |
| | -[CLASH] | FAILURE- |
| 11(2)-A(4) | | |
| -BREAK | 11(4)-B(5) | |
| | INJURY- | |

NEWMAN DIE 12: FINE RAY DIE.
 MERIDIAN SUN WITH FINE RAYS
 ABOVE SUNDIAL WITH BASE. BELOW
 BASE IN EXERGUE IN TWO LINES IS
 MIND YOUR OVER BUSINESS. FUGIO
 TO LEFT AND 1787 TO RIGHT OF SUN-
 DIAL. CINQUEFOILS BEFORE AND
 AFTER FUGIO AND DATE.
 IN EXERGUE: ORNAMENTS BEFORE
 AND AFTER MIND YOUR AND BEFORE
 BUSINESS.CENTER ORNAMENT OVER
 CENTER OF I.LEFT UPRIGHT OF M TILTS
 RIGHT.UR IN YOUR IS LOW. U IN BUSI-
 NESS IS LOW.CINQ M5.5, H5, M6.5, H12.
 MEDAL TURN ONLY WITH NEWMAN Z.
 NEWMANS 12-M,12-X RARITY 3
 NEWMAN 12-U RARITY 4
 NEWMANS 12-S,12-Z RARITY 5
 NEWMANS 12-KK,12-LL RARITY 6

DIE STATES

- 12(1) LOT 2428 NASCA 4/81.
- 12(2) DIE CLASH: WITH NEWMAN LL.
- 12(3) DIE CLASH: WITH NEWMAN U.
- 12(4) DIE CLASH:LOT 2433 NASCA 4/81.
- 12(5) DIE BREAK: RIM AT 15 DEGREES,
 VERTICALLY TO TIP OF GNOMEN.



NEWMAN 12(1)



NEWMAN 12(5)

STRIKE ORDER

| | | | | |
|-------------|-------------|------------|------------|------------|
| 12(1)-Z(1) | 12(1)-S(2) | 12(2)-U(3) | 12(3)-M(3) | 12(4)-M(6) |
| | -BREAK | -[CLASH] | -[CLASH] | -BREAK |
| 12(1)-KK(1) | | | | |
| | 12(1)-S(3) | 12(2)-U(4) | 12(4)-M(4) | 12(4)-X(2) |
| 12(1)-KK(2) | -BREAK | -BREAK | CL-CL | -[BREAK] |
| -BREAK | | | | |
| | 12(1)-LL(1) | 12(3)-U(5) | 12(4)-M(5) | 12(5)-X(2) |
| 12(1)-S1) | | CL-CL | -DAMAGE | BREAK- |
| | 12(2)-LL(2) | | | |
| | CL-CL | | | |

MIDDLE DATE PROOF CENSUS --- (Part Three)

| | Denis Loring | |
|---|---|---|
| DWL DNB Slab Grade Grade Grade | <u>Pedigree</u> | <u>Comments</u> |
| <u>1831 N6</u> U/P60+ P/U63 | Ryder 876-Sternberg 1650-Kagin AD 695-REN-EJS | *4-6 tooled pit before nose |
| <u>1831 N9</u> 63 P/U64 | Smithsonian Miller 893-Ryder 877-REN-EJS | mark down from eye spot at *3 |
| <u>1831 N10</u> P/U65NP(DNB) P/U63+ | FS 254-REN Zanoni-Cleneay 1876-Mougey 169-Bement 363- Sawicki 660-NY-NJ Auc. 3/59:717-REN-EJS | spots before face |
| <u>P60/U63</u> <u>63</u> PF P/U | Kagin's, 1977-REN-EAC 4/89:330-M&G 7/94:112-SDC Fenton, 8/86-JAB Federal 2/55:907 Young-BB 9/45:744 | dent before mouth, scratch on neck |
| <u>1831 N11</u> <u>63</u> <u>60+</u> | Stickney 1596-FS 256-RSB 713-RARCOA 8/91:15- SUP 8/92:16-DL-SDC | |
| <u>60+</u> | Mougey 168-Lahrman 367-REN-EJS-Legend- ANR 3/04:324-Gervasoni-Her 4/06:294-Her 1/07:779 | nick before nose |
| not proof | French 509-TJC 245-Sloss 180-LM 11/65:102-JCS | |
| <u>1831 unattributed</u> | Mackenzie 677-Keeney Winsor 935-Hall McCoy 713-Hodge Merritt 224 Chapman 6/89:886-Barnes ("Crimson") Parmelee 1010 | Morgenthau 6/42:354 Mickley 2031-Miller Finotti 824-Cohen in set |
| P/U | | |

| DWL | DNB | Slab | <u>Grade</u> | <u>Grade</u> | <u>Grade</u> | <u>Pedigree</u> | <u>Comments</u> |
|------------------|-----|------|--------------|---------------------------------|--------------|--|-----------------|
| | | | | <u>1834 N7</u> | - proof only | | |
| <u>65</u> | | | | <u>67</u> | | Norweb 2919-Nicholas-SUP 1/92:581-AJT-DWH-SDC | |
| <u>63</u> | | | | <u>63</u> | | Williams 404-FS 292-RSB 873-DWH-JRF-DWH | |
| <u>60+</u> | | | | <u>60+</u> | N63BN | Mougey 179-Sleicher 1097-Mor. 6/42:355-FS 291-REN-DL-AJT-WAR 3626-AJT | |
| <u>60+</u> | | | | PF | P60BN | French 540-REN-AJT-Stack's 3/06:2389-Bullowa 1/07:22-book @ 35K | pit above *2 |
| <u>40</u> | | | | <u>40</u> | P50BZ | Mougey 184-Nicholas-SUP 1/92:582-RSB-Sup 1/96:597-JRF 1056-(SUP 5/03:806)-CVM-AJT-(Sup 2/07:206) | |
| <u>8</u> | | | | PF | | Widok, discovered 12/94-EAC '96:261-WAR-SUP 3/00:103-Ellsworth A New Jersey dealer-AJT-Stack's | |
| | | | | <u>1834 unattributed</u> | | | |
| | | | | <u>1835 N7</u> | | Mickley 2035-Mackenzie 680-Mason McCoy 717-Lishe | "small date" |
| <u>63</u> | | | | | | Holland-NN 54:1545-REN-EJS | nick on jaw |
| <u>not proof</u> | | | | <u>1835 N11</u> | | | |
| <u>not proof</u> | | | | <u>not proof</u> | | HRN 666-FS 306-REN-EJS-WAR ANS | spot at *3 |
| <u>not proof</u> | | | | <u>not proof</u> | | Stack's 3/06:3585-SDC as "Pf-64" | red |
| <u>1835 N13</u> | | | | <u>1835 N13</u> | | | |
| P/U63P/U60 | | | | | | Beckwith 83-Morgan 270-FS 308-REN | |

EAC REGION 5 MEETING

Leo Courshon

Region 5 had a meeting on Saturday, September 19, 2009, during the Illinois Numismatic Association's fall show at the Holiday Inn Convention Center in Tinley Park, Illinois. This was the 50th Anniversary for the Association and the show was well attended. The meeting began at noon with each member introducing themselves and telling us what they collect. The members present include; Leo Courshon, Mike Gebhardt, David G. Gumm, Joan and Rod Widok, Charles R. Meeker II, Tom Reynolds, Ken Dawidowicz, Maury Shepherd, David Sardella, and Paul Hybert.

The topic of discussion was focused on and led by Tom Reynolds and Rod Widok, who had attended the auctions in California conducted by Larry and Ira Goldberg in conjunction with Chris McCawley and Bob Grellman. We asked them to give their opinions, thoughts and reflections on the recent Dan Holmes Early Date Collection on September 6, 2009, and the Late Date Collection of Ted Naftzger on September 7, 2009. Rod Widok explained to us that the prices were very strong at the Dan Holmes sale with many coins going for double the estimates or even more. Tom Reynolds also felt prices were very strong and interest was split between dealers and collectors. Tom then explained that at the Ted Naftzger sale prices again were very strong with the winning bidders being split between dealers and collectors. Rod was the winning bidder on some of the lots at the Ted Naftzger sale and also said that prices were very strong. Maury Shepherd commented on being the winning bidder for one lot in the Dan Holmes sale and Mike Gebhardt was also successful on a couple of lots in the Dan Holmes sale.

The meeting was then opened up to the members for comments and discussions on recent finds. We asked Maury to tell us the story of how he found his 1822 N14 at a coin show. And Charles R. Meeker II related his experience in finding a slabbed 1854 Pattern(Proof 65) of the Flying Eagle design earlier this year. He had been searching for one for years.

The meeting was then adjourned so the dealers could get back to their tables and for the rest of us to look for new purchases!!!

* * * * *

“THE LIST” CHANGES HANDS

John Conour

Initially, I had considered resurrecting the *EDR* which had been sidelined for some time but Mike Schmidt picked up the banner, and I decided to look at doing the Middle Date tally when I heard that John Wright would like to “pass the torch” on that effort which he has ably done for over a quarter century. John recently published his last update, and now I will jump into the fray. I can fully imagine the efforts that will be needed, but expect that once the initial “collection entries” are made into my system that it will be a manageable function.

First, you should know about me, as all will not have made my acquaintance, or I yours: I have been collecting early copper for approximately fifteen years. Prior to that time, I collected nickels, Lincoln and Indian Cents, SL Quarters, Morgan Dollars and Type. After getting well

into copper I have divested myself of the shiny metals. I joined EAC in March 1998 (according to my EAC disc). My major collecting goal was to put together a date set of U. S. copper (*sans* proof Half cents). After that goal was reached, I moved to date types for Early and Middle Dates (wide dates, overdates, tilted numbers, straight dates, etc.). I am currently doing re-punched Late Dates with an occasional upgrade of the earlier coins. I have attended five EAC conventions and do an exhibit—"The United States Coins of 1816"—which requires quite a bit of work to continually add new items or features. I have written three or four articles for *P-W* and have done two "Guest Commentaries" for *Coin World*. I have worked for a large global glass manufacturer for 38 years and hope to retire in the next year. Finally, please note that most call me "Jack" and that my last name is pronounced "cone-hour"

During the period of time that I was considering doing one of the series reports, I arrived at the "door" (or more appropriately the EAC website overseen by Craig Hamling).

I must digress slightly here. When I first called Craig someone answered the phone with something that sounded like the word "zirconia", but I passed it off even on the next call. Finally I asked him if I was hearing correctly, and Craig answered in the affirmative. I then asked if he might be a ceramist as this material is quite well known in the ceramic community. My being a ceramic engineer by trade (and there are not all that many of us, as only a few universities offer it in their curricula), I always inquire when I think there is such a possibility. And I learned that, indeed, Craig is one such fellow and that he had attended Alfred, the largest such school in that specialty—not only a copper but a vocational bond.

Anyway, Craig then explained that he was trying to get coin census reports put onto the EAC website with the ability to add pictures and descriptions and do the comparative calculations. He then asked if I was interested in assisting, and I agreed to try to aid in the web project, which could become a valuable educational and informational resource.

Craig has been working on the site, and individuals will be able to enter and update their personal files and view other members' coins in the database. Instructions on how to access the website are being put into place. Only the web administrator(s) would have the ability to change a member's information and then they would be notified. There will also be a method to use an alias for those who would like to participate but remain anonymous. I have done both my Early and Middle Date Coins with pictures and it is not as daunting a task as one might expect once the decision is made to get serious.

As an example of what is required time wise to put onto the website: I entered my modest collection of 89 *EDR* pieces complete with grade, picture, and comments in approximately four hours. This time included moving my PowerPoint pics back to JPEG's for loading into the website. I entered the comments by transferring data directly from my Excel tabular data.

I hope to be able to expand the participation in "The List" and bring some more real time updates. I also plan on adding a special "Classic Collection" section - does not need to be from a famous person, just a dedicated EAC collector. I have currently compiled just over a dozen such collections utilizing sale catalogs.

I will commit to a once yearly mailing of "The List" on spreadsheet (via e-mail), disc, or in paper format and endeavor to time this distribution to the annual EAC Convention. The eventual aim would be to eliminate the paper version altogether, duly recognizing that this will take some time to accomplish. The utilization of the computer and/or web-based concept will result in cost

and time reductions in compilation and distribution, and enable faster overall turn-around times—not to mention the ability to post photographs, which will be an exciting addition for the web participants.

How it will work:

I will assume current members of “The List” will want to remain with at least the paper copy. I will be in contact with you about getting an e-mail address or, better yet, just send it to mine below with your wishes as to the type of participation you desire and the method of distribution of the report.

To participate in “The List,” just call, e-mail, or write to Jack Conour indicating your willingness to do so. If you choose to participate in the web site project, you will be set-up to enter data on the website or let me know if you desire that it be done for you. If you ask for the data to be entered for you, no time commitment will be made although I will do my best to get it done as quickly as possible. Individuals will be responsible for photographs. For those who choose only the paper (or disc version) for variety and grade listings, any type of legible format would be acceptable—I will ask that new additions be noted if a complete listing is included.

Participation Rules & Policies

- >> Participants must be paid-up EAC members.
- >> The names and collections that are part of the report are private information.
- >> Each member agrees to keep information confidential - sharing other's collection data publicly is prohibited.
- >> Distribution of information is restricted to those who have contributed their collection lists.
- >> There will be a requirement of at least 25 dates and/or varieties for participation in order to ensure serious participation.
- >> For newer collectors, a lesser number of pieces will be considered as long as observable progress is being made to reach the minimum requirement – the determination will be at my sole discretion.

Grading:

- >> All coins are to be net graded using EAC standards. Slab grades are not acceptable unless consistent with EAC grades.
- >> All "+" grades rounded down – a dropdown grade menu will be provided.

General:

- >> Data must be received 45 days prior to issue for inclusion in the annual mailing, otherwise it will appear in the next issue. I will communicate the deadline date to all participants well ahead of that time.
- >> I will accept updates anytime – please advise me if you add to the website so that I can record in my master file.
- >> Any discrepancies will be "fixed" in the next issue or emailed in a spreadsheet for those who so choose.

Pertinent Information

Address: 2218, Linden Ct, Maumee, Ohio 43537

Internet: jrcon1799@sbcglobal.net

Phone: 419-893-3560 (H)

419-410-6461 (C)

419-247-4279 (B)

Craig Hamling

hcraig@hcraig.com

The Formula:

I plan to use the CQR CC1 data from the website, in order for interchangeable data to be possible.

* * * * *

EARLY AMERICAN COPPERS 2010 ANNUNAL CONVENTION & SHOW

April 21-25, 2010, in Annapolis, MD

Brett Dudek

The 2010 EAC Convention will be held at the **Doubletree Hotel Annapolis, 210 Holiday Court, Annapolis MD 21401, 410-224-3150**. The hotel is in the same location as the 2005 Convention but has changed names and had an 8 million dollar renovation. It is a beautiful Hotel convenient to Baltimore-Washington International Airport and the historic district of Annapolis. We have reserved a large block of rooms and have the “run of the house.” Please keep in mind that the charges to the EAC for use of the bourse and meeting rooms depend on the number of guest rooms that we as a club use during the convention. Be sure to make reservations before March 24th, 2010. On that date any rooms reserved for us and not used may be rented to others.

To reach the hotel, see directions at the end of this article.

Bill Eckberg is our Bourse Chairmen, and I am happy to report that we have completely sold out the 64 tables that we have. This is the largest number of bourse tables we’ve ever had at a show anywhere other than Cincinnati. If you want to be on the waiting list for a table, email Bill as soon as possible (halfcent@mac.com). The Bourse will open at 10:00 AM on Friday, Saturday and Sunday. It will close at 5:00 PM on Friday and Saturday and at 3:00 PM on Sunday. Lots to be sold in the Saturday EAC Sale will be available for viewing from 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM on Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday. Any lots you win in the Sale will be available for pickup Sunday morning after the annual meeting.

The **Educational Forums** will be organized and scheduled by Chuck Heck and are always well attended and a great benefit for all. They will be held on Friday and Saturday.

This year, our Featured Guest Speaker at the Friday evening program will be **Q. David Bowers**. He will share some of his experiences over more than 55 years in numismatics, speaking on “The People, The Events, The Coins, and The Sales.” You won’t want to miss this memorable evening’s presentation!

I will also be talking with Doug Bird and Steve Carr about having the **EAC Grading and Counterfeit Detection Seminar** on Thursday morning and will post confirmation of that in the future.

Thursday evening we will be having our traditional hospitality reception. This is a great way for us to kick off our convention and catch up with friends we haven't seen for awhile in an informal setting. It has become customary for EAC members who wish to act as hosts for the reception to make donations toward the food and drinks served. Your donations are very much appreciated and will help make the reception a great time for all. Any contributions can be mailed to the Convention Chairman Brett Dudek at my address below and made payable to "EAC Convention 2010."

The **Colonial, Half Cent and Large Cent Happenings** will follow the reception.

Annapolis is full of history and our hotel is conveniently located to offer numerous opportunities for tours, shopping, day trips and night life with complimentary shuttle service within a five mile radius of the hotel. In the next few weeks I will be talking with several members about tours and day trips they have been planning and post updates about these as they are scheduled. If anyone would like to volunteer to give tours or plan day trips please let me know.

Questions or contributions, contact:

Brett Dudek

1513 Bellona Ave. Apt. B

Lutherville, MD. 21093

[Tel:443-632-5454](tel:443-632-5454)

Email: bad_30_99@yahoo.com

Directions:

From South and Washington DC: Take Route 50 East to Exit 22, Riva Rd. Follow signs to Riva Rd. and make left at light onto Riva Rd. Second light, left onto Holiday Court.

From North: Take I-95 to I-895 South to I-895 Spur South. Exit onto I-97 South, continue on Route 50 East to Exit 22-Riva Rd. Follow signs to Riva Rd. and make left at light onto Riva Rd. Second light, left onto Holiday Court.

From East: Take Route 50 West across the Bay Bridge. Continue on Route 50 to Exit 22, Riva Rd. exit. Follow signs to Riva Rd. and make a left at light onto Riva Rd. Second light, left onto Holiday Court.

From West: Take I-70 East to I-695 South, Exit onto I-97 South, continue to Route 50 East to Exit 22 Riva Rd. Follow signs to Riva Rd. and make a left at light onto Riva Rd. Second left onto Holiday Court.

From Baltimore Washington Airport: 97 South to Route 50 East. Take Exit 22 and turn left on Riva Rd. Turn left at 2nd light onto Holiday Court.

From Washington National Airport: Rt. 1 South to 495 North to Baltimore. Follow 495 over Woodrow Wilson Bridge to Rt. 50 East to Annapolis. Exit 22 (Rt. 665-Aris T. Allen Blvd.) Follow signs make left onto Riva Rd. at light. At 2nd light left onto Holiday Court.

From Washington Dulles International Airport: Access road exit onto 495 West which becomes Rt 95/495 North. Take exit to Rt. 50 East Annapolis. Rt. 50 East -22 miles to Exit 22 (Rt. 665 Aris T. Allen Blvd.) Follow signs & make left onto Riva Rd. Left at 2nd light onto Holiday Court.

Please note: Holiday Court is the intersection where Forest Drive meets Riva Rd.

* * * * *

DON VALENZIANO, JR., 1952-2009

Greg Heim

"UNCLE DON," MY FRIEND AND MENTOR

It was Sunday, August 2, 2009. I had just finished some business in town when I received a phone call from Ray Williams. I almost dropped my phone when Ray told me that Don Valenziano had passed away because of complications from hip replacement surgery. Needless to say, my thoughts went out to his beloved wife Shirley and his entire family. When I got home and told my family, Lisa, the girls, and my parents were in shock as well.

Don Valenziano, Jr. was one of the reasons why I joined EAC. In 1991, I realized that I had no focus when it came to my collecting goals. Don was an easy-going, kind man for whom no one ever had a bad word to say. When a long-time club member of the Watchung Hills Coin Club and New Jersey Numismatic Society, Bill Moore, passed away earlier that year, I made a decision that I was going to bite the bullet and collect Large Cents because of a hilarious story he had told about a 1794 Sheldon-24 "Apple Cheek." The way that Bill told the story, he made the collecting of copper approachable. That was the first time that I have ever heard anyone do such a thing.

Through the help of my other friend and other mentor Arno Safran, I met Don at the 1991 Garden State Numismatic Association Convention in Cherry Hill, New Jersey. At this show, the dealer that I met was an affable man who had nice copper. He was also willing to share his knowledge.

I told Don that I was interested in joining EAC. After looking at my budget, I mentioned to Don that I wanted to collect Matron Head Large Cents. He agreed that the Matron Head Large Cent series would be a good fit, and that he could help me pursue that goal. Shortly thereafter, I joined EAC and I met Don once again at the 1991 ANA Convention in Chicago. There he had an EF-40 1821 N-2 for \$750.00. I really liked the coin, but I was not totally sure. Since I was an EAC member and a friend of Arno's, Don told me to take the coin home and to pay for it or ship it back after the show. He wanted to make sure that I liked the coin even more when I looked at it again. I sent him payment the day after the plane landed upon my return. It was at that point where I knew I was dealing with a reputable, honest, and forthright dealer.

In 1994, I was mentoring a 13-year-old collector at one of my local clubs. He was assembling a date run of Draped Bust Half Cents. When he lost interest, I got hooked on the series. I went right to Don and offered him my Matron Head Large Cent collection because he had helped me

assemble it, and he had conversed with me in giving me the knowledge (good or bad) about the coins that were in it. Perhaps I could have gotten a few more dollars if I had shopped it around, but to me it was not worth it.

Over the next four years Lisa and I assembled a pleasing set of Draped Bust Half Cents by die variety. Virtually every coin was better than average for the grade, and Don had played a large role in this. When we got the news that Lisa was expecting our second child, I picked up Don from the train station as he came to my parent's house. My mother, who is an excellent judge of human character (a by-product from being a hairstylist for over 47 years) liked Don from the second he entered their home. My father, who is about as basic (not to be confused with simple) as they come, took to Don's pleasant demeanor immediately. In a little more than 15 minutes, I negotiated a deal with him to purchase our collection, which consisted of all but five of the die varieties of Draped Bust Half Cents. Every single coin that Don had sold us we made a profit on! As a matter of fact, there were only three instances where I bought a coin from Don, in the 18 years that I knew him, that we lost money - that's over a 95% success rate!

Don also helped Lisa and I assemble a more-than-respectable holding of Hard Times Tokens. One piece that was memorable was the rare Gibbs token of Belleville, New Jersey. A pleasing VF-30, Lisa's eye took to it immediately. It was one of the few times that Don ever "talked up" a sale item since he wanted to stress to my finicky spouse the paucity of the specimen. Conversely, he cautioned us early on that we were spending too much money on high-grade common pieces - to which he would be proven accurate.

Over the next several years, Don and I did not do that much business together. However, that did not mean that I did not seek his advice and friendship. He represented us in several auctions, fairly and reasonably, while exhibiting superb judgment. Two pieces of note were the Frankenfield 1794 C-4a and one of the Weber 1804 C-5s. Don's business started to go into the "eBay period" as I like to call it around 1999-2000. Ironically, this would turn out to be his greatest contribution to me and my family.

In my article of a few years ago entitled "Collecting Coppers with a Neurological Disorder," I mentioned that my son and I are autistic. In early 2007, I had to make a major career change to care for my son. It was hard for me to start over, but I decided to take coins on consignment from other dealers and collectors for sale on eBay. Let's just say that Don spoon-fed me through my business for the first 6-12 months. I could have easily have had one of those red phones without a number pad that had Don's name on it! That's the way it was until the day he died. Without Don, I would not have a business that is doing well. Without Don, I would not have a business that I can be proud of. It was this selfless dedication to his friend, indeed, to *all* of his friends, that made him special - even though he had the initial appearance of being just an ordinary guy.

The last time I spoke to Don was the day before he died. He was undergoing therapy for his hip. He never complained a bit, and even was chuckling about his predicament. I do not think that any one of us would have expected anything less from him.

EAC has truly lost a tremendous asset and a true gentleman. It is my hope that the board of EAC does something to remember Don. My suggestion is to name the award that we give out for the individual(s) who give selflessly of themselves to the benefit of the club. In any event, that's just my "half cent's" worth.

* * * * *

BILL YATES REMEMBERED

Dale Anderson

I first met Bill Yates at EAC in Philadelphia. He was a hard guy to miss. They say that all things are bigger in Taxes and Bill was a prime example, both physically big and larger than life.

Early on, he was a master of finding better varieties of large cents in slabs and passing them along to those in need. I don't think I ever bought a coin from him, but I sold him quite a few. Although he did attend a good many EAC events, he seemed to have a wide range of clients and was able to find a home for most anything I would find in local coins shops, especially silver dollars and type coins.

At one Long Beach show I was chatting with him, and we got on the subject of his military service. He went on to tell me that he was in charge of servicing the SR-71 Blackbirds at Beale Air Force Base. As an amateur fan of this aircraft I got really excited and started asking all sorts of questions about the plane, speed, altitude etc. He sat there, smiled and said, "That is still top secret."

He was one of a kind and will be missed.

* * * * *

THE HOLMES S264

Jim Neiswinter

Editor's Note: Due to a printing error, this article was inadvertently "cut in half," as its author so gently reminded me, when we *tried* to publish it in the September *P-W*. Those of you on Region 8 have already seen it in its entirety. For the rest of you, here it is:

When Doug Smith still lived in Brooklyn I used to visit him every few months. I would always go on a Friday after work, and we would go out for dinner and then go back to his apartment. I always enjoyed looking at his cents (Draped Busts were his favorites), but most of all I loved listening to his stories. Lot 526 of the Holmes sale brought one of these to mind.

As I looked at the pedigree of the second of Dan's two S264s, I realized when I saw Doug's name listed as a previous owner, that he had told me the story of how he acquired it. He said that Art Kagin offered him this coin in the early 1950s. When Doug saw the coin he had to have it. The only problem was that he didn't have the money to pay for it. So he asked his father for a loan. His father thought he was nuts to spend \$800 for a penny, but he gave him the money anyway. Doug was so pleased about getting this coin he showed it Dr. Sheldon. That was a mistake. Sheldon (who had previously owned the coin) thought Kagin should have offered it to him first and he wanted it back, so he started working on Doug to sell him the coin. Doug held out until 1959 when, in one of the most famous trades in the history of large cents, he traded the finest known S264 to Sheldon for 77 gem middle date cents, that had originally belonged to Henry Hines. (I'm not sure if the 264 was the only coin Doug traded to Sheldon, although I think it's likely. I called Del Bland to ask if he knew. He didn't, but he did tell me that mint state middle date cents were "dirt cheap" in the 1950s.) One of

the key coins for Doug was an 1817 N9. He called this coin the “King of all the Greenies.” This N9 sold for \$35,650 this past February as part of the Naftzger sale of middle dates. Who do you think got the better of the deal?

By the time you read this the Holmes sale will be history. The estimate on the S264 is \$30,000-UP. I wonder what Doug’s father would have thought about the price this coin will bring.

Postscript: The coin ultimately sold for \$28,750.

* * * * *

CANDIDATES FOR MEMBERSHIP

The following persons have applied for membership in EAC since the last issue of *Penny-Wise*. Provided that no adverse comments on any particular individual are received by the Membership Committee before the January 2010 issue of *P-W*, all will be declared elected to full membership at that time. Chairman of the Membership Committee is Rod Burress, 9743 Leacrest, Cincinnati, Ohio 45215.

| <i>Name</i> | <i>City, State</i> | <i>Member Number</i> |
|---------------------|---------------------|----------------------|
| Antonio Acevedo | West Palm Beach, FL | 5815 |
| Thomas James Ciha | North Olmsted, OH | 5816 |
| Michael Kasler | Larue, OH | 5817 |
| Michael J. Kohn | Bakersfield, CA | 5818 |
| Charles W. Kuhfuss | Rochester, NY | 5819 |
| Richard E. Pfrender | Eugene, OR | 5820 |
| James Scantlin | Burke, VA | 5821 |
| Conrad Smith | Tacoma, WA | 5822 |
| Earl Sweeney | Mickleton, NJ | 5823 |
| Charles O. Wills | Lynchburg, VA | 5824 |
| Douglas M. Wright | Saltillo, MS | 5825 |
| Jim Gazdik | Pittsburgh, PA | 5826 |
| Roger C. Mills | Horn Lake, MS | 5827 |
| Andrew Wood | Neosho, MO | 5828 |
| Julie Norquest | West Palm Beach, FL | 5829 |
| John Howard | Centerville, OH | 5830 |
| Allen Ross | Lake Forest, CA | 5831 |
| Gary Littrell | Corpus Christi, TX | 5832 |
| Frank Martin | Sugar Land, TX | 5833 |
| Lee Etheridge | Cleveland, TX | 5834 |

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EAC SALE SOLICITATION

At the request of EAC President, Denis Loring, the EAC Sale Committee repeats the solicitation he made in the July issue of *P-W*. The committee, all volunteers, consists of:

Robert Calderon: rjc463@verizon.net
Bill Eckberg: halfcent@mac.com
Glenn Marx: Gmari@aol.com
Jim Neiswinter: j_neiswinter@hotmail.com

Proposals to run the sale should cover all relevant parameters. These include:
Individuals/firms involved
How will consignments be solicited and collected?
Insurance and storage of lots
Who will write the catalog? Photographs?
How and by whom will the catalog be printed and distributed?
How and by whom will the sale be conducted?
How and by whom will the lots be distributed to the winning bidders?
Financial arrangements: seller's commission, buyer's fee, amount retained, amount remitted to EAC
For how many years is this proposal?

Feel free to use the recent M&G EAC sales as a template. Proposals are due by December 31, 2009. They should be sent to the committee members and to Denis (dwloring@aol.com). The committee is charged with reviewing all proposals and making a recommendation to the Board of Governors, which will be voted on at the 2010 meeting in Annapolis.

* * * * *

EDUCATION FROM A CATALOGUE

Ray Rouse

Over the years, the topic that comes up most in the pages of *Penny-Wise* seems to be the “non-controversial” subject of grading. Every newcomer to the hobby seems to have many questions about “EAC grading” and every old timer seems to have many opinions about “EAC grading.” Today resources are available to learn grading that simply did not exist even a few years ago. Digital photography has brought us larger than life high quality color photos that make seeing a coin easier than ever. Although there is no substitute for actually holding the coin in your hand, you can learn a lot about grading early American copper in some of today’s catalogues.

One of the catalogues I recommend to learn “EAC grading” is The Ted Naftzger Collection Part III, of Late Date large cents, from the Goldbergs’ September 7th, 2009 sale. I recommend this catalogue because 1) it is readily available to most readers of this publication; 2) it has numerous high quality color photos; 3) the coins are all evaluated by one of the major slabbing services, PCGS, and the vast majority of these coins are given EAC grades by two EAC

notables, Bob Grellman, who catalogued the collection, and Bill Noyes, whose EAC grades are given as he evaluated many of them as part of his condition census data.

If you want to learn grading, I suggest you start by using a magnifying glass that you are comfortable with on these photographs. Although I know that Bob Grellman uses a 16 power glass to grade coins, I have never been comfortable with that magnification. However I tried using a three, seven and ten power glass on the pictures and I found all of them acceptable in aiding me to see the details described in the catalogue.

Remember, when you read the description in the catalogue, what you are really doing is following Bob Gellman's thought process as he evaluated each coin. Of what marks did he take note? What flaws did he consider trivial? Did he miss or ignore any problems with the coin? What about the language he uses—every specialty has its own special terms, and early copper is no exception. What are tiny pinpricks and how are they different than tiny specks? How do you tell die wear from wear on the coin? What are die polishing lines and how are they different than die flow lines? Why does PCGS list some coins as "Genuine" and not give them a grade, and how are these evaluated by Grellman and Noyes?

The following is a partial list of some of the terms used in lot descriptions and a couple of the lot numbers where examples showing what these terms mean can be found. Your challenge is to see if you can identify from the coins' pictures the features Bob is talking about: "natural oxidation" 1132 & 1268; "moon scape texture" 735 & 777; "radial lines in stars" 613 & 623; "finger smudge" 606 & 737; "cartwheel luster" 666 & 990; "retained cud" 783 & 839; "die rust" 611 & 792; "cleaned and retoned" 677 & 707; "burnished" 710 & 839; "abrasions" 740 & 761; "greenie" 692 & 844; "original mint red" 969 & 970; "care removal" 801 & 887; "lapped dies" 833 & 869; "die clashmarks" 817 & 818; "crumbling connects" 886 & 908; "genuine" 740 & 801; "concentric raised die preparation lines" 615 & 853; "rim cud" 603 & 607; "die flowlines" 669 & 878; "die finishing lines" 785 & 971; "fields rising" 865 & 870. Are these all the terms and examples? Of course not! Study the catalogue and you will find others.

Another interesting feature of the catalogue is to compare the PCGS grades with those given by the EAC graders. As expected, for most coins the PCGS grade is higher than the EAC grade given. However, there are many exceptions—see for example lots 799 & 981. Moreover, some of the coins PCGS mererly graded as "genuine" were even given uncirculated EAC grades by Bob Grelman—see for example 753 & 976. Why is this so? Perhaps you need to take a second look at them.

Now if you can identify all the above features so that you can grade copper correctly when you look at real coins, I take my hat off to you. I'm still doing my "homework."

* * * * *



EVALUATION of an EAC MEMBER'S LARGE CENT VARIETY STATUS and EVOLUTION of THINKING, PROGRESSION, and COLLECTING HABITS

Howard Spencer Pitkow

INTRODUCTION:

In the March, 2009 issue of *P-W* (Vol. XL111, No.2, Issue 251) entitled “ Statistical Nausea 1: A Comparative Analysis of an EACers Average Large Cent Collection,” I compared my early, middle and late date large cent collection as to grade (AU-F, VG-G, AG-Pr) and rarity (R4, R5, R6). As an addendum to that publication, the present tenth article for *P-W* concentrates on the large cent varieties I “have” and “need” for each of the 64 years from 1793 to 1857. I will also relate to the readership the evolution of my thinking process as it relates to my collecting and spending habits during this large cent variety odyssey.

BACKGROUND HISTORY:

As a teenager my only ambition was to collect a complete large cent year-date set of 64 coppers. As far as varieties or die states were concerned, this never entered my mind and was not part of the equation. I got as far as 50 large cent and 17 half cent dates when the realities of life interfered with my quest. Between college, graduate school and eventually an academic career at a medical school, precious little time was available to devote to my fledgling copper collection. How awkward and inconvenient! As previously documented I had been absent from numismatics for 45 years until I retired as Professor Emeritus from Temple University School of Medicine in 2004. Since then I have been collecting approximately 40 different numismatic entities including my primary interest in large and half cents.

So, there I was in June 2004 with 50 large cent and 17 half cent year-date coppers. As the membership is now well aware of through my publications, I have concentrated on my coppers with reckless abandon and determination. One might even say that my relentlessness with large and half cents has resulted in my developing what I have termed the PATHOLOGICAL COMPULSIVE COPPER DISEASE SYNDROME (PCCDS) which we all have in varying degrees.

Since I presently have 193 early date varieties I still need 109 of the total 302 varieties if the 53 non-collectibles are excluded. For the middle dates I now need 6 of 245 varieties not including the 1834-N7 proof. Finally for the late dates, excluding the 14 proofs, I lack only 11 of the 372 varieties. Hence, the sum total of my large cent variety collection stands at 793. This does not include my seven delisted varieties. My goal is to locate, negotiate and purchase as many of the remaining 126 varieties ($109+6+11=14\%$) of the remaining 919 total, excluding non-collectibles and proofs.

Although I am enamored by all the large cent groups, I have a special fascination for the variety diversity exhibited in the 1800-1803 series. I have been most fortunate in purchasing five more varieties since my March article and have acquired 72 of the 76 total varieties (95%) in this set, excluding the 14 NC's. In order to complete this collection I am still searching for four elusive coppers-1800-S198, 1801-S217, 1801-S218 and of course the 1803-S264. (My 1802 set of 18 varieties is complete).

EVOLUTION OF THINKING AND COLLECTING HABITS:

In looking back and analyzing the evolution of my thinking process, resulting in a change in my large and half cent collecting habits, I have discovered a definite progression in my general objectives and goals. Obviously, my first objective was to obtain an example of all 64 large cent and 34 half cent year-dates. Secondly, I then set out to collect all the large cent and half cent varieties using R.S. Yeoman's *A Guide Book of United States Coins* (The Red Book) as my guideline. The third step and objective was the acquisition of as many late date large cent and half cent varieties as possible. As discussed in a previous *P-W* publication (Vol. XLI11, No.3, Issue #252) I presently have 62 half cent varieties including the 1837 token plus 42 duplicates. This was followed by phase four which inspired me to collect the middle date copper cent variety series. The more middle and late date cent varieties I collected, the harder it became to acquire the remaining rare and consequently more expensive coppers. As it became progressively more difficult to obtain these coins, I found my habits evolving into two other stages (5th and 6th) by beginning to collect early date large cents. I first started with the 1800-1814 group. Once most of these varieties were acquired, I then worked backwards starting with the 1798 series followed by 1797, etc. During this evolutionary process, as one might expect, my spending habits also increased incrementally.

It seems that I am now concentrating on the early dates while sporadically finding a middle or late date variety when the occasion presents itself. For some strange reason I have reached the point in this evolution where I am starting to get interested in die states. For example, I have recently developed a fixation for the 1855-N9 knob ear seven major die states ("a" to "g"). At present I have seven N9's comprising of four die states-one "b", four "d's", one "e" and one "f". By the way, how many die states are there in the 919 varieties I am attempting to collect? Will someone please save me from myself and this uncontrollable obsession?! It seems to be getting worse and worse and my copper compulsion has become greatly elevated. I really believe that I am entering the advanced stages of PCCDS (Pathological Compulsive Copper Disease Syndrome).

If my calculations are correct I have passed through seven stages during the metamorphosis of my collecting habits on the way to my apparent final goal of collecting EVERYTHING under the SUN. As a result, I have listed below the seven progressional phases which affected my copper collecting and spending habits.

- 1- large cent (1793-1857) and half cent year-date sets.
- 2- "Red Book" large cent and half cent varieties
- 3- late date and half cent varieties
- 4- middle date varieties
- 5- early date 1800-1814 varieties
- 6- 1798 followed by 1797 varieties, etc.
- 7- genesis of die states

RESULTS:

In table 1, the reader can observe the large cent variety numbers for each of the 64 years. For those years with 15 or more varieties the numbers within the parenthesis on the right side of the

table indicate the number of varieties I now possess as of this writing. Please note that for the years 1848 and 1851 I have collected 40 varieties of the total for that year. This is followed by 1798 with 39 varieties, 1847 with 34 varieties and 1853 where I have completed all of the 33 varieties. Additionally, except for the 6 years from 1793 to 1798, I do not need more than two varieties per year except for 1848 where I am missing only three coppers.

Please note in Table 2, I have summarized those years from Table 1 in which I have collected more than fifteen varieties in descending order. Therefore, I now possess 793 of the 919 large cent varieties (86%) if you exclude the early date 53 non-collectibles, the 1834-N7 proof and the 14 late date proofs. Presently, the corresponding year-date variety completion statistics for the 64 years are: 32 (50.0%)- all varieties, 10 (15.6%)-all varieties except proofs, 11 (17.2%)-1 variety needed, 4 (6.3%)-2 varieties needed and 7 (10.9%)-more than 2 varieties needed (Table 1).

In Table 3, I have presented essentially the same data as in Table 1 from a different perspective. The reader will note that I have presented the early, middle and late dates chronologically by year. The membership can observe the total varieties (excluding the non-collectibles and proofs), the number of varieties I have and the number of varieties I still need for each of the 64 years. Again, with the above noted exclusions in this scenario, I have collected all the varieties in 42 (32+10) or approximately two thirds of the 64 years (65.6%) that large cents were produced at the Philadelphia mint (Tables 1,2).

In Table 4, the reader will appreciate that I have listed those SPECIFIC varieties that I have or need to complete each year for my large cents. Please pay special attention to the early date column where I have denoted in parenthesis the words “need” or “have” for most of the years. A “check-mark” indicates that I have completed all the varieties for that year in my collection.

DISCUSSION:

There is another dimension one can explore regarding any large cent variety collection. If we eliminate the following series listed below, 723 large cent varieties remain of the 987 total.

1. 1793-1799 series which includes 196 varieties and 39 non-collectibles (i.e., 235 total).
2. 14 early date non-collectibles from 1800-1814.
3. middle date 1834- N7 proof.
4. 14 late date proofs.

By eliminating these 264 varieties, I am now missing four varieties from the 1800-1814 series, six middle date varieties, and 11 late date varieties for a total of 21 of the 723. This calculates to 2.9% of the varieties I still need in order to complete the 1800-1857 variety series.

If we want to take the numbers game to another level we can include the 1797, 1798 and 1799 series. I need only four of the 26 varieties from 1797, five of the 44 varieties from 1798, and one variety from 1799 for a total of 10 coppers. Therefore, after eliminating the above-mentioned NC's, proofs and the varieties from 1793-1796, I need 31 varieties of the 795 total or 3.9% to complete the 1797-1857 variety series.

Another consideration involves my seven delisted varieties mentioned earlier in this article. If you include the seven delisted with my 793 coppers, this technically gives me a total of 800

varieties----a magical number level for me. Since so many sporting records, etc., have an asterisk next to them, why not my 800* varieties? I guess this is a fanciful idea on my part. The 800 variety level sounds good even though realistically I am not quite there yet.

Have you had enough with the variety numbers game discussed above? TALK ABOUT OVERKILL! Never let it be said that I only skim the periphery of a topic or issue!

It will not be an easy task, no matter what grade I am collecting, to accomplish my ambitious goal. I have no illusions as to the difficulty and obstacles that will be encountered in this quest. I do realize of course that there will be some varieties that will be unattainable. It will be interesting to see how far I progress in trying to succeed in this undertaking.

SUMMARY:

I have collected 193 early date varieties, 239 middle date varieties and 361 late date varieties for a total of 793. Additionally I possess a large cent duplicate collection of 437 coppers as well as those seven delisted coppers. I will continue to search for those 11 late date, six middle date and 109 early date varieties. Specifically for the early dates, I am especially interested in completing the following series-1800-1803 (need 4), 1797 (need 4) and 1798 (need 5). I expect to pass the EAC APPROVED 800 variety milestone in the very near future.

* * * * *



[illegible]

| | |
|---------------------------------------|--------|
| a – (32) – Have All Varieties – 50.0% | |
| b – (10) – Have All Varieties – 15.6% | |
| Except Proofs | |
| c – (11) – Need 1 Variety – 17.2% | |
| d – (4) – Need 2 Varieties – 6.3% | |
| e – (7) – Need More Than – 10.9% | |
| 2 Varieties | |
| 64 years | 100.0% |

| TABLE 2 | | | | |
|--|-------|-------------------|-------|-------------------|
| SUMMARY OF LARGE CENT YEARS WITH FIFTEEN OR MORE VARIETIES ^a | | | | |
| YEAR | | VARIETIES HAVE | | VARIETIES NEED |
| 1848 | ----- | 40 | ----- | 3 |
| 1851 | ----- | 40 | ----- | 2 |
| 1798 | ----- | 39 | ----- | 5 |
| 1847 | ----- | 34 | ----- | 2 |
| 1853 | ----- | 33 | ----- | 0 |
| 1854 | ----- | 28 | ----- | 1 |
| 1846 | ----- | 24 | ----- | 0 |
| 1849 | ----- | 24 | ----- | 2 |
| 1850 | ----- | 24 | ----- | 1 |
| 1797 | ----- | 22 | ----- | 4 |
| 1800 | ----- | 22 | ----- | 1 |
| 1803 | ----- | 22 | ----- | 1 |
| 1856 | ----- | 20 | ----- | 0 |
| 1852 | ----- | 19 | ----- | 0 |
| 1802 | ----- | 18 | ----- | 0 |
| 1817 | ----- | 17 | ----- | 0 |
| 1835 | ----- | 17 | ----- | 1 |
| 1837 | ----- | 16 | ----- | 0 |
| 1820 | ----- | 15 | ----- | 0 |
| ^a EXCLUDES NON-COLLECTIBLES AND PROOFS | | | | |

TABLE 3

LARGE CENT VARIETIES FOR EACH YEAR

| EARLY DATES (22) a | | | | MIDDLE DATES (24) b | | | | LATE DATES (18) c | | | |
|--------------------|-----------------|------|------|---------------------|-----------------|------|------|-------------------|-----------------|------|------|
| YEAR | TOTAL VARIETIES | HAVE | NEED | YEAR | TOTAL VARIETIES | HAVE | NEED | YEAR | TOTAL VARIETIES | HAVE | NEED |
| 1793 | 18 | 1 | 17 | 1816 | 9 | 9 | 0 | 1840 | 11 | 11 | 0 |
| 1794 | 58 | 12 | 46 | 1817 | 17 | 17 | 0 | 1841 | 6 | 6 | 0 |
| 1795 | 9 | 4 | 5 | 1818 | 10 | 10 | 0 | 1842 | 9 | 9 | 0 |
| 1796 | 39 | 11 | 28 | 1819 | 10 | 10 | 0 | 1843 | 13 | 13 | 0 |
| 1797 | 26 | 22 | 4 | 1820 | 15 | 15 | 0 | 1844 | 7 | 7 | 0 |
| 1798 | 44 | 39 | 5 | 1821 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 1845 | 14 | 14 | 0 |
| 1799 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1822 | 14 | 13 | 1 | 1846 | 24 | 24 | 0 |
| 1800 | 23 | 22 | 1 | 1823 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 1847 | 36 | 34 | 2 |
| 1801 | 12 | 10 | 2 | 1824 | 5 | 5 | 0 | 1848 | 43 | 40 | 3 |
| 1802 | 18 | 18 | 0 | 1825 | 9 | 9 | 0 | 1849 | 26 | 24 | 2 |
| 1803 | 23 | 22 | 1 | 1826 | 8 | 8 | 0 | 1850 | 25 | 24 | 1 |
| 1804 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1827 | 12 | 12 | 0 | 1851 | 42 | 40 | 2 |
| 1805 | 3 | 3 | 0 | 1828 | 12 | 12 | 0 | 1852 | 19 | 19 | 0 |
| 1806 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1829 | 9 | 9 | 0 | 1853 | 33 | 33 | 0 |
| 1807 | 6 | 6 | 0 | 1830 | 11 | 10 | 1 | 1854 | 29 | 28 | 1 |
| 1808 | 3 | 3 | 0 | 1831 | 13 | 13 | 0 | 1855 | 12 | 12 | 0 |
| 1809 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1832 | 3 | 3 | 0 | 1856 | 20 | 20 | 0 |
| 1810 | 5 | 5 | 0 | 1833 | 6 | 6 | 0 | 1857 | 3 | 3 | 0 |
| 1811 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 1834 | 6 | 6 | 0 | | | | |
| 1812 | 4 | 4 | 0 | 1835 | 18 | 17 | 1 | | | | |
| 1813 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 1836 | 7 | 7 | 0 | | | | |
| 1814 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 1837 | 16 | 16 | 0 | | | | |
| | | | | 1838 | 15 | 14 | 1 | | | | |
| | | | | 1839 | 15 | 14 | 1 | | | | |
| TOTAL | 302 | 193 | 109 | TOTAL | 245 | 239 | 6 | TOTAL | 372 | 361 | 11 |

a – EXCLUDES EARLY DATE 53 NON-COLLECTIBLES

b – EXCLUDES MIDDLE DATE 1834 – N7 PROOF

c – EXCLUDES LATE DATE 14 PROOFS

| TABLE 4 | | |
|---|--|--|
| EARLY DATES A (<u>NEED</u>)/HAVE – SHELDON NOS. | MIDDLE DATES B (NEED-NEWCOMB NOS.) | LATE DATES C (NEED – NEWCOMB NOS.) |
| 1793 (HAVE) – 2 1794 (HAVE) – 21, 24, 29, 31, 47, 49, 56, 64, 65, 67, 70, 71 1795 (HAVE) – 75, 76b, 77, 78 1796 (HAVE) – 81, 84, 85, 89, 91, 92, 97, 100, 101, 109, 114 1797 (<u>NEED</u>) – 121a, 122, 125, 129 1798 (<u>NEED</u>) – 144, 149, 156, 178, 180 1799 (<u>NEED</u>) – 189 1800 (<u>NEED</u>) – 198 1801 (<u>NEED</u>) – 217, 218 1802 – ✓ 1803 (<u>NEED</u>) – 264 1804 -- ✓ 1810 -- ✓ 1805 -- ✓ 1811 -- ✓ 1806 -- ✓ 1812 -- ✓ 1807 -- ✓ 1813 -- ✓ 1808 -- ✓ 1814 -- ✓ 1809 -- ✓ | 1816 -- ✓ 1817 -- ✓ 1818 -- ✓ 1819 -- ✓ 1820 -- ✓ 1821 -- ✓ 1822 – 14 1823 – Restrike 1824 -- ✓ 1825 -- ✓ 1826 -- ✓ 1827 -- ✓ 1828 -- ✓ 1829 -- ✓ 1830 – 9 1831 -- ✓ 1832 -- ✓ 1833 -- ✓ 1834 -- ✓ 1835 – 19 1836 -- ✓ 1837 -- ✓ 1838 – 16 1839 -- 15 | 1840 -- ✓ 1841 -- ✓ 1842 -- ✓ 1843 -- ✓ 1844 -- ✓ 1845 -- ✓ 1846 -- ✓ 1847 – 36, 43* 1848 – 33, 44, 46 1849 – 25, 30 1850 – 20 1851 – 42*, 44 1852 -- ✓ 1853 -- ✓ 1854 – 30 1855 -- ✓ 1856 -- ✓ 1857 -- ✓ * = UNIQUE |
| | A – Excludes Early Date 53 Non-Collectibles B – Excludes Middle Date 1834 – N7 Proof C – Excludes Late Date 14 Proofs ✓ -- Have All Varieties Per Year | |
| | <u>EARLY DATES:</u> 193 ÷ 302 = 64% <u>MIDDLE DATES:</u> 239 ÷ 245 = 98% <u>LATE DATES:</u> 361 ÷ 372 = 97% <u>TOTAL VARIETIES:</u> 793 ÷ 919 = 86% | |

WHERE DO I GO FROM HERE?

James Higby

Within these past few years many of us have encountered what oh, so many copper collectors before us have already encountered or will eventually encounter in their collecting lives, namely, the proverbial brick wall. Unless one is filling holes in a folder or album with pre-printed requirements under the coin ports, his collecting goal is somewhat less finite, less defined, less likely to ever be completed or even recognized by a non-numismatist as complete. Since many of us who collect copper “bury” our treasures in some configuration of the 2x2 individual holder, we don’t have a clearly-defined end in sight, no triumphant moment where we snap that last want list coin into its waiting opening in the album page.

The brick wall is that structure that often unexpectedly causes further acquisitions to come to a screeching halt. It may take the form of chronic unavailability of the pieces we think we still need, the higher prices of those scarcer coins, or both, but it is always there, lurking and ready to jolt us back to reality. My own brick wall materialized suddenly, like the 2001 monolith, after I had accumulated 79 Cohen varieties and 245 Sheldons (the Newcomb variety set of middle dates, as John Wright so aptly observes in *The Cent Book*, offers more “bang for the buck” and, at least until the discovery of 1822 N-14, has been eminently possible to complete).

Once copper fever takes over a human organism, there is no “cold turkey” approach to be reasonably contemplated. This CF Syndrome necessitates regular infusions of Early American Copper! Decency forbids that I enumerate the hideous symptoms of copper deprivation, and anyway, they are already known and understood by virtually all readers of this publication. “So, where do I go from here?” I wondered.

Colonials! Why, yes, Colonials! After all, most of the pieces collected by colonial collectors are made of copper, and they certainly are “Early American.” We have all at least glanced through the front matter of the Redbook in our haste to get to the Federal copper section, and as a result have at least a passing familiarity with these coins. We are favored with several groundbreaking books and publications that cover the field well, although from the reading of them it becomes obvious that there is still room for scholarship.

The bellwether work on colonial coins is Crosby’s 1875 book, *The Early Coins of America*, which stood without peer as a general compendium until well into the second half of the 20th century. In 1971 Don Taxay lent his expertise in the *Scott’s Comprehensive Catalogue and Encyclopedia of United States Coins* and Walter Breen produced his legendary *Encyclopedia* in 1988. More recently we have seen outstanding works in Q. David Bowers’ *Whitman Encyclopedia of Colonial and Early American Coins* and in the most chatty and inclusive *In Yankee Doodle’s Pocket* by Will Nipper. Of course, the Wayne Raymond series of annual catalogs contained a presentation of Colonials (although mostly without commentary) and the Redbook remains a perennial font of information on this fascinating field of numismatics. Each of the authors represented by these works takes a slightly different tack on what is acceptable as a “Colonial” and what is not. In the narrowest sense, a “Colonial” must have been minted in or exclusively for the American colonies, and before the Revolution, a limitation which disqualifies most of the copper, silver, and gold pieces most often associated with early America. In the widest sense, a “Colonial” is anything that any Colonial collector has ever collected as a Colonial at any time and in any place (thanks to John Agre for this pithy observation), obviously a much

“bigger tent” approach to dealing with these pieces. Regardless of one’s personal position on this issue, when one asks a dealer to see his “Colonials,” it is close to universally understood to mean the latter.

Those observations made, I offer an even dozen early copper coin types that would constitute a representative set of “Colonial” coins. Gentle Readers are entitled to have their own lists, longer or shorter, that are equally valid. My list is intended as “bait” for the half cent or large cent specialist to expand his or her horizons a bit, and I fully realize that no one is likely to follow this prescription without veering off at one or several points. Desiring to make this collecting endeavor reasonably affordable, I have purposefully avoided listing some very legendary and highly desirable pieces that, alas, get into four figures in a hurry. As sad as it is for me to say it, the famous “Bar” copper failed to make the cut for that reason (I still would like to somehow, someday, own one).

1. Rosa Americana halfpennies, pennies, and twopence of 1722-23

What could be more American than an American Rose? All these coins feature a five-petalled rose, sometimes with a crown, sometimes without. The portrait of King George (the First) appears on the obverse, along with the usual Latin regal inscription. Made of an alloy of copper, heavy on the zinc, often called “pinchbeck” or “Bath” metal from its vague resemblance to gold when new, these pieces are moderately difficult to find with nice color and surfaces. A few pockmarks are par for the course, but perseverance in the search for a minimally afflicted example will eventually pay off.

2. Virginia halfpennies of 1773

Another British product, this time showing George III, these beautiful copper coins, with a delightfully intricate reverse design, are widely available in high grades, thanks to the finding of a hoard.

3. Voce Populi halfpennies of 1760

So, why do these make the cut, while the “St. Patrick” coppers and Wood’s “Hibernia” coinage do not? After all, they were all three made in Ireland, for Ireland, and feature a harpist on the reverse. In my view, it’s the eponymous “Voce Populi” (properly pronounced WOE-keh POE-poo-lee in classical Latin; pronounce it differently and everyone will know what you mean, but you will be personally and harshly net graded), which means “by the voice of the people”, a notion that has great significance to America’s perception of itself. Voce Populi coppers are fairly easy and relatively cheap to find nice, and some of them did actually circulate in North America. Although there are many hypotheses about whom the portrait represents, his identity is not known.

4. Nova Constellatio coppers of 1783-86

The 13 original states were indeed a “new constellation,” and the designer of these must have intended for them to be spectacular. On the obverse, below the title inscription, an all-seeing eye, which appears on other coins of the period, is surrounded by rays and stars, while the reverse features the abbreviation “U.S.” either in block letters or in script, with the words LIBERTAS and IUSTITIA foreshadowing a famous phrase in the Pledge of Allegiance.

5. Massachusetts half cents and cents of 1787-88

These are arguably the best-made copper coins dated before the 1830s. Fairly uniform in manufacture, they feature a Native American on the obverse, with a splayed eagle on the reverse. On the eagle's breast we find the denomination in very shallow incuse lettering, and this area quickly became worn flat in circulation. As this is one of the earliest actual uses of our decimal denominations, it is most desirable to find a specimen that still shows the full lettering.

6. Connecticut coppers of 1785-88

Over 300 die pairings have been identified in the Connecticut series. Connecticut enthusiasts are some of the most rabid numismatists around, and the series offers enough challenge as to provide study for a lifetime. Most of the coins are imitations to varying degrees of the contemporary British halfpenny, and many of the die pairings are of dubious origin, both American and European. This fact gives early American numismatics some of its most colorful terms: "Roman Head," "Horned Bust," "African Head," "Laughing Head," "Hercules Head," and my favorite, the "Mutton Head." A large number of anomalous spellings, counterfeits, and fabricated letterings make Connecticut a most attractive collection. But one will suffice to represent the type.

7. Machin's Mills coppers

Thomas Machin, a Revolutionary War officer, established his "mint" in a barn in upstate New York, where he made a living in ways that many today would find, shall we say, "less than honorable." Several known lightweight counterfeits, of both British halfpennies and American state coinage, have been attributed to his operation. Legend has it that the duties of one employee included keeping curious visitors at a distance, and that he accomplished this by donning a hideous mask and peering out a partially-opened door, supposedly frightening away anyone who might venture near. Nevertheless, for better or for worse, the output of Machin's makeshift factory comprises a large number of coppers that can be called "true American" and thus worthy of inclusion in our short set of Colonials.

8. New Jersey coppers of 1786-88

If I could own but one "Colonial" copper, it would be a New Jersey. Three simple, familiar, old-timey devices adorn its faces: a horse's head and a plow are shown on the obverse, while the reverse features a shield surrounded by our national motto "E Pluribus Unum" (out of many, one). There are enough varieties of these through die pairings to keep them interesting, but not so many as in the Connecticut series to make them intimidating. One could spend a lifetime studying New Jerseys. Although there are some New Jerseys of dubious origins, most were struck by legitimate, experienced craftsmen in well-appointed private mints.

9. Nova Eborac (New York) coppers

These relatively crude pieces were products of Machin's Mills, but are given separate billing here, as they were produced as originals for the State of New York, as opposed to being counterfeits or imitations of other coins. They feature a young laureate head with the legend NOVA EBORAC above, opposite a seated "Britannia-like" figure accompanied by the legend VIRT ET LIB (virtue and liberty), the first word of these three being somewhat ironic, considering the reputation of Machin.

10. Vermont coppers

When these coppers were made, Vermont was an independent state-in-waiting, and the legend on one face of them, STELLA QUARTA DECIMA, indicates that she expected to eventually become the 14th “star” or state. The early pieces feature one of the most attractive designs in all of American coinage, a landscape showing the sun rising over the coniferous forest of the Green Mountains. Later designs would feature a more traditional bust and seated figure combination, a deliberate ploy to encourage more widespread acceptance by the public. Unfortunately, the blanks used to produce Vermont coppers were of atrocious quality, and the surviving coins attest to this sad reality.

11. Fugio coppers of 1787

These delightful pieces feature a sun-above-sundial on one face and 13 linked rings on the other. Benjamin Franklin is usually given credit for inspiring the design, and the inscription “Mind Your Business” certainly sounds like something he would have said (although not the same thing as “mind your own business”; the intent here was to encourage business owners to keep a careful eye on their affairs in order to prosper). The Latin word “Fugio” (I fly) is simply a different conjugated form of the same verb that is seen in the more complete phrase “Tempus fugit” (Time flies). Interestingly enough, these coins feature the words “United States” (or, on some varieties “States United”) for the first time, along with the phrase “We Are One.”

12. Washington pieces

Most, if not all, of the early copper pieces showing the bust of Washington are of foreign origin and many were made after 1800, more decisively disqualifying them as “Colonial” or even “early American” in the narrow sense. Nevertheless, the popularity of George Washington is not to be diminished by inconvenient facts, and those pieces shown in the Redbook are highly prized and collectible as symbolic of our national origins. In general, the Washington pieces are attractive, well made, and available in higher grades without a huge outlay of money. They are also very impressive to the non-numismatist or even the non-specialist. My vote goes for including at least one of them in any short set of early coppers.

There are perhaps two dozen additional copper pieces that are widely collected as part of the “Colonial” series, but that have less legitimacy in the eyes of experts. Many of these are Conder tokens or merchant tokens, all having some connection with America through subject matter. The “Kentucky” token, the Franklin Press token, the Mott token, the Pitt token, and the Talbot, Allum, and Lee cents fit into this category. My only comment on these is the same as my comment on any collectible: “If you like ‘em, collect ‘em.” That’s pretty good advice, no matter what one’s numismatic pursuit might be.



LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Eric Newman writes,

On p. 259 et seq. of the September 2009 *P-W*, there's a beginning of FUGIO CENT DIE STUDY written by Michael S. McLaughlin. There are several thoughts which come to mind as I read this wonderful contribution to the subject.

You indicated that this item will be published in following issues of *P-W* into 2011. We would like to combine all segments into one folder or booklet for ourselves—thus will you send us an extra copy of the first McLaughlin segment and one extra of each of the following segments? Perhaps you or the author intends to publish a complete assembly after the *P-W* publications; but in the meantime, a grouping of the segments is needed by us and perhaps others. . .

As you know, I had assembled, written and had published in 2008 a book entitled *United States Fugio Copper Coinage of 1787*. I included a mention of McLaughlin's contribution to the field. I attempted to point out that the coinage was not the denomination of CENT. I might suggest that in subsequent segments of McLaughlin's study this might be modified accordingly, as no mention of the word CENT is in the 1787 proceedings. Also, the weight agreed upon did not conform to the 1785 statutory requirements of the denomination of the copper cent. The first segment of McLaughlin's kindly reference to my early work as in 1952 should also be January-February 1949 as revised in 1952. I was then wrong in using the word CENT, but I did not know better then. A reprint of my 1949 article is in my 2008 book. . .

Lastly I want to mention that I have almost prepared and am discussing with the publishers of my 2008 Fugio book an Addenda and Errata for it. Would you be interested in publishing that? I would include a reference to McLaughlin's work but would not use any of his data. Is this a practical idea for the benefit of your readers at an appropriate time? As you may know, I write only for pleasure and on a not for profit basis just as you and many others do. . .

Editor's Note: Messrs. Newman and McLaughlin have now been put in direct mail contact with one another. And I have told Eric that I would be very pleased to publish an Addenda and Errata to his book. In addition, as suggested in the articles by Howard Pitkow and James Higby in this issue of *Penny-Wise*, as "completion" comes to mean locating an ever smaller and tougher-to-locate group of rarer and rarer pieces, and prices for Federal copper continue to climb into the stratosphere, perhaps it's time to revisit *other* areas of early American copper—such as the Fugio coppers.

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FROM THE INTERNET

Gene Anderson

NEW MEMBERS

Joining since our last report are **Neil Aitchison, Peter Mosiond, Bill Anderson, Mike Mathews, Kevin Vinton, and Bob Holmes**. Region 8 currently has 405 active members. Total EAC membership at last count was about 1269. Where are the rest of you guys?

DAN HOLMES SALE

Bill Eckberg reported that prices seemed generally VERY strong, with a number of coins going to six figures. Nevertheless, a few went for less than \$100, and he believes that at least two were bought by Dan's grandkids.

Alan Gorski commented that words cannot adequately describe the Dan Holmes catalog.

Phyllis Thompson wrote about the Holmes sale saying it must have been really exciting and she wished she could have been there.

Ron Robertson reported that living in the L.A. area has its benefits and being able to see the lots in the Holmes Auction proved to be a big one. After several hours of drooling over some really amazing coins he left with the realization that he will never be able to have a comparable collection, but can certainly enjoy the hobby nonetheless. He did have several conversations with himself on the drive home, mostly along the lines of: "Honey, I just sold the house!" or better yet, "Since the 401K isn't really doing much, how about?" or "But sweetheart, \$250,000 for a 1793 is a really good deal." Oh well, at least he got to examine an outstanding collection at his leisure, even if his bidding was limited.

Alan Gorski commented that the Dan Holmes catalog estimated that the S-79 would sell for \$250,000+. But it's not often that an R7 that's easily attributed, and previously owned by Dr. Sheldon, comes up for sale. He is glad someone captured this event on video.

Tom Deck says he watched the Dan Holmes sale live on iCollector.com; very exciting to see some of the prices some of the coins brought. Thanks to Craig Hamling for providing a YouTube video of the calling of the first million-dollar large cent, the finest known S-79. Tom was fortunate to acquire three more modest coins for his collection: S-177, S-202, and S-232, all major condition upgrades. Tom is curious how others fared who placed bids—prices on most (but not all) coins seemed very strong.

Dennis Fuoss wrote that it was his good fortune to be able to participate in both the celebration held in Dan Holmes honor prior to the sale, and the momentous auction of his historic collection. The party was a lively affair, and Dan seemed to be enjoying every minute! The Goldbergs were most gracious hosts. The auction itself was one of the most anticipated numismatic events of this year. The size of the venue was greatly increased in anticipation of a large crowd. Even with this precaution, the place was full when the first lot was called. The Southern Californians and faithful EAC dealers were joined by numerous EAC'ers from around the country, who simply could not resist the two-fer of Dan's coins on Sunday and Ted's coins on Monday. Lot 1, the Sheldon-1, was quickly hammered down for \$320,000 (vs. the conservative estimate of \$100,000) and we were under way! Ira moved things along at a measured pace, letting everyone (including the occasionally slow internet) get a crack at the coins. Prices seemed strong, but not running away, and Dennis' confidence began to build that he might be able to bring something home from this sale. However, one of his early hopes was dashed when LOT 49 (the Sheldon-30) ran up to \$9250 against a pre-sale estimate of just \$2000! This was a very beautiful cent that clearly captured the eye of more than one of us during lot previewing. Starting with the 1794s, the bidding pattern that seemed to emerge was that high-grade coins (especially CC coins) brought very strong money, but mid-grade common varieties and low-grade scarce varieties were settling near "book values" (or, occasionally below book). Dennis' first wins in the sale involved a couple of low-grade scarce 1796 draped bust coins. These were not exactly bargains, but the

prices seemed fair, and these coins are a credit to his collection. Dennis' personal highlight was the capture of Dan's great 1797 Sheldon-130. It was also his privilege to be "in the room" when the first U.S. large cent was auctioned for more than \$1 million! Lot 128 (the finest of seven known 1795 Sheldon-79 reeded edge cents) was hammered down at \$1.1 million, as the cameras rolled! There were enough highlights in the Holmes sale to fill a small book. Dennis did one quick post-auction analysis to track some of the Walt Husak coins that were also part of the Dan Holmes collection, to see how the hammer prices from these two sales would compare. The Husak collection was sold in Feb. of 2008, just before the financial turmoil that has been wracking the country for over a year. How well would the value of early copper hold up during such turbulent economic times? The answer seems to be: "copper is alive and well." Dennis looked only at the cents from 1793 through 1798, and found 18 coins that were sold in both sales. Of the 18 coins tracked, eight coins sold for more in the Holmes sale than they brought at the Husak sale. Four coins showed losses from the Husak sale to the Holmes sale. Six coins sold for essentially the same price in both sales. The most spectacular increase was seen for the 1794 Sheldon-68 (Lot 110), which was hammered for \$135,000 vs. just \$70,000 at the Husak auction. The best buy for an early Husak coin in the Holmes auction was the 1794 Shelson-22 (Lot 37), which brought a winning bid of \$27,000 vs. \$42,500 at the Husak sale. Even in these tough times, the copper faithful found a way to pay-to-play at this event.

CHINESE FAKES

Tom Hart suggested that, since there has been some discussion about the replica coins from China and the possibility that they may be offered as genuine coins, members check out an 1817 large cent on eBay. Tom believes that it matches the 1817s being sold from China. However, the word REPLICA does not appear on the coin. To Tom's eye, there appears to be some disturbance in the field above ONE on the reverse where REPLICA might have appeared. The item listing includes a disclaimer which the seller added after Tom notified him/her of his concerns.

Randy Snyder wrote that Tom Hart posted a concern about a potential Chinese counterfeit auctioned as genuine on eBay, an 1817 large cent. Randy contacted the seller and offered assistance in understanding how it is known that his was a counterfeit piece, Randy believes he heard him. The piece in question is without a doubt a Chinese counterfeit. It is one of the series that used a genuine 1833 N 5 to produce the dies. The actual mother coin had a rim ding over the D of UNITED that is clearly visible and closer examination will show remaining die cracks consistent with the reverse of 33/5 E/MDS. Actually the most deceptive of this group is the 1833 because the date was not scraped off and re-punched. It has a "horned 8" and perfectly matches die variety attribution. The concern that the piece did not have the required replica or copy stamp or that it had been removed is normal, but realize that very few of them have it. Randy has yet to see one that has been stamped other than those pictured. Chinese sellers don't stamp them because they rely on repeat customers. Just think about that for a moment! eBay refuses to take action, relying on the sellers' promises that these are stamped, and even when reported no detectable action is taken by eBay. Randy suspect the reason is, that it is the *sellers* that pay listing fees, final value fees, and PayPal fees, while buyers pay nothing directly to eBay.

MEMBER COMMENTS

Phil Ralls explained the term "whirlybirds" for us. Whirlybirds = Liberty Cap cents, especially 1794s. Their caps spin on the poles, like the rotors on a helicopter, hence a "whirlybird." Phil

believes Jeff Oliphant came up with this description, circa 1980, which was used to kid the whirlybird crowd, especially the '94 zealots. Of course there are '93 and '95 whirlybirds too.

Jack Conour reports that he has agreed to take over "The List" for John Wright. Anyone wanting to participate can contact him at jircon1799@sbcglobal.net. He looks forward to hearing from both current and new participants. He has an article with more details in this issue of *P-W*. He is planning on some changes and to utilize the web with Craig Hamling to get some more timely updates as well as a Classic Collection section.

Jerry Karinsky sent out an interesting tool: a one-page Large Cents Checklist that includes all dates by variety. This is an Excel spreadsheet. The plan is to highlight the cells for the varieties you own. For example, using green for varieties you have and orange for ones that are in the mail. He is also looking for feedback on how to improve it.

Stu Schrier wrote in response to Jerry Karinsky that the spreadsheet checklist is a great idea. He likes the idea of a one-page inventory list. One thought that would make the checklist more useful is if there is a way to put a grade in the box for the coins you have. Would that make the cells too large and increase the chart beyond the page size? If so, how about a color code such as red for cull or AG, beige for good, yellow for VG, green for Fine, etc.

Hugh Bodell sent out his 12th Region 8 quiz. These have been fun puzzles.

Skip Lane has been meaning to put in his two large cents worth since he received the Dan Holmes Catalog so now would be as good a time as any. He considers himself a collector of modest means, but that being said, he does receive much enjoyment from it. Probably his greatest thrill in 40 years of coin collecting was when he attended the COAC on large cents at the ANS several years ago. Most of the people there seemed to know each other and Skip suspects all new someone ... except for him. He didn't know a soul. He is normally shy in unfamiliar surroundings and was being something of a wallflower when a gentleman came up to him, pointed to a couple of coins on the table and said "What do you think?" Skip picked up one of the coins (in no holder of any kind) and looked at it. His heart about jumped through his chest. It was a Strawberry Leaf Cent! He carefully set it down and picked up the other piece. Another Strawberry Leaf! Needless to say, the gentleman who had pointed the coins out to was Dan Holmes. He reminded Skip of a kid with a new toy, anxious to share it with all his friends. Skip is grateful to Dan for making him feel at ease. After that, it was much easier for him to approach and converse with many of the others in the room and as a result Skip had a thoroughly enjoyable day.

Kirk Thomas said he learned many things at the Holmes sale. He hopes to get the time in the fall to elaborate on this and a few other long overdue thought processes. First and foremost - He will never forget meeting and chatting with Dan The Man! He will treasure the time that he had with him during a break in the auction. A true gentleman of a world-class persuasion! Although Kirk missed a few lots that he really wanted to hammer down, he is really happy that he hammered down the three that he did. In the last volley for now - Kirk has a question about S218/219. He has a recent acquisition that is heavily corroded. Diagnostics (2/3) are clear on the reverse - fraction mostly hosed. Obverse is hammered with corrosion. Handily - LIBERTY - DATE areas are amongst the areas most affected - LOL. Although it's likely a corrosion trick or the result of another coin stacked on top of it - has anyone ever seen a 218/9 that has exhibited an arcing die crack through the date? Aforementioned line starts at the first 1 - bisects the midpoint of the 8 and 0 - and ends in the final 1. Newbie input appreciated!

Henry Hettger reports another probable counterfeit in a PCGS slab. He said there is a 1799/8 large cent in a PCGS genuine holder on eBay that appears to be an altered date. E is not below R in LIBERTY, and IB is wide rather than narrow in placement. The 9 of the date is angled slightly to the left not in the normal vertical position for the overdate. (eBay item # 160365820452 and PCGS slab # 1446.80/132953.35.) Henry updated us of something probably good and something definitely bad: This eBay item (#380161893273) recently closed and appears to be a new terminal die state of S-237 with a large reverse cud over STATES.

David Hatfield bursts Henry's bubble about a new terminal die state of S-237. He inspected the coin in person and it turns out the cud is a mirage. He thinks it was created by light on the plastic. Oh well, maybe next time.

Dennis Fuoss said he has added a blurb about EAC grading to his Early American Copper blog. This can be found at: <http://earlyamericancopper.blogspot.com/>. The comments of fellow EAC members would be most welcome.

The missing page from the September *Penny-Wise* elicited a few interesting comments:

From **Dan O'Brien**: "So, this makes this issue an "error" issue? Worth at least twice what a non-error issue would go for? Can *Penny-Wise* be slabbed? Perhaps Ken Bressett can assign it a number? Hope you find this as funny as I do. Thanks for the missing page! Please keep up the good work."

Alan Lese reported an even greater error. He received an issue that also lacked pages 273, 274, 295 and 296.

Jerry Johnson wrote isn't technology wonderful? Too bad he's not 30 again (or 40 or 50 or) to enjoy more.

Needless to say, **Jim Neiswinter**, whose article ended on the missing page, noticed the error.

And **Robert Hammond** commented: "Thanks, Bill, for the correction page to the latest EAC *Penny-Wise*. Both articles were very interesting, and had me 'involved,' when POOF, they continued into the no-where! I simply figured the POOF was publishing *erratum* which would soon be discovered. With a copy of this latest addendum, I will place it appropriately between the pages. Second-time reading is always better and more 'involved.'"

Leo Courshon reported that Region 5 had a meeting during the Illinois Numismatic Association's fall show. This was the 50th Anniversary for the Association and the show was well attended. A full report appears elsewhere in this issue of *Penny-Wise*.

Red Henry said that Leo Courshon reported a discussion at a Region 5 meeting of how Maury Shepherd found an 1822 N-14. So, how many does this make known of that rare variety? He now counts as many as eight, but he hopes the experts will chime in with the currently-authenticated number.

Paul Hybert tells us he was pleased with the one lot he won from the Dan Holmes auction, and recently spent some time comparing the coin to the images in the catalog. Each coin was imaged twice in the catalog: one approximately real size, and the other enlarged. Paul's personal opinion is that the small image is unnecessary - and it sure looks small next to the large image. *Too small*, in fact. So Paul found his millimeter scale. The images of his S-141, lot 257, are 26 and 52 mm in diameter, while the coin is 28 mm in diameter. The Red Book shows the diameter of Chain Cents as about 26 mm, and that matches most small images in the catalog. A sampling of

the images turns up only a few at about 28.5 mm in diameter: 11 (S-7), 79 (S-48), 101 (S-64), 128 (S-79), 137 (S-83), 152 (S-93), and 153 (S-93).

Bill Eckberg wrote in response to columns in recent issues of *Coin World* and *Numismatic News*. Paul Green mused in the October 6 issue of *NN* about the seemingly large number of Mint State examples of 1853 half cents. Bill published a study in *P-W* number of years ago (around 2000) that the number of survivors is what it is because the mintage of that date was the largest of the type. In fact, the percentage of the existing population that is certified in Mint State is quite LOW for the type, relative to the known hoard dates (1854-7). Brad Karoleff, writing in the October 19 *CW*, calculated rough estimates of how many coins the early U. S. Mint could strike per unit time, based on the reported annual mintages. In fact, we know the number the Mint could strike per day in the earliest years. Deliveries in 1793 were roughly 7,000 each day they minted cents or half cents, so that can be taken as their limit. Deliveries for the next year were slightly larger, and by the early 19th century, the Mint could produce about twice that many coins of a type per day, because of improved technology. Brad's numbers work out to ~7,000 coins per day for years 1809-22. That assumes that both cents and half dollars were coined each day at a maximal rate. His calculations show instead that the Mint was not engaged full-time in striking either type. Mint records show, for example, that the 1809 large cent mintage was less than 223K and struck entirely from a single pair of dies. Even at 7K per day, that works out to less than 31 days of work. Extrapolating from his study of half cent deliveries of that year, Bill would estimate that less than 2 weeks were spent on the entire large cent mintage of 1809. Bill considered writing in to *NN* and *CW*, but he figured that everyone who might care about these things probably reads *Region 8*, so this seemed to be the better venue.

INQUIRING MINDS WANT TO KNOW

Keith Ward asked about acquiring an example of the Dan Holmes Collection Sale Copper Token. It's a 1793 obverse with the Dan Holmes Sale and date fashioned as the fraction on the reverse and would make a nice display piece and an excellent reminder of this historic auction. He was told by a fellow EACer that they were given away at EAC 2009, but he wasn't able to attend.

Robert Calderon asked if someone with experience can tell us if there is any advantage to using reagent grade acetone rather than drugstore brand 100% acetone (nail polish remover) to remove dirt from coppers.

Phyllis Thompson says she would advise Robert Calderon to use Xylol instead of acetone although she doesn't know the chemical reasons. You then use blue ribbon. Also she recently acquired a near mint state (possibly mint state) N13 with a cud at 7 o'clock (late die state of N 11) Does anyone know how rare this is? There is a vast difference in price between "Penny Prices" & "CQR."

Alan Gorski also wrote about solvents. Drug store finger nail polish or bulk acetone will often leave a thin white residue behind when it evaporates. Acetone evaporates very rapidly and has a low flash point (ignites very easily). Xylol, which is xylene, (~100 octane) evaporates much more slowly but is still very flammable. Acetone readily removes permanent ink marker, whereas xylene is a generally a better degreaser. In any event, handle these chemicals with care.

Rick Beale had a query about booby heads. Does anyone have information about the origin of the term "Booby Head"? It is associated with certain varieties of 1839 large cents, but apparently

the term was also applied to the 1834 \$2.5 second obverse die. Perhaps the term was first used with the quarter eagle, and not the cent!

James Higby responded to Rick Beale by saying he doesn't know that he has seen the plural "boobies" used to refer to a pair of the eponymous 1839 large cents, but the usage is at least good for a chuckle. He believes that the term "silly" was used to indicate that the so-called 1839 head itself was silly, in the sense of "goofy-looking," because of the protruding forelock, whereas the "booby" in Booby Head would refer to the designer himself, or even the observer of this 1839 head variety, who thought that such a hairdo, in which the lower curl could wrap around the bust truncation as it does on this variety, could exist in reality. Only a "boob" (we'd more likely use the term "dummy" these days to avoid the more vulgar connotation of "booby") would think such a thing. Or perhaps we should really update the terminology and now call the Booby Head the "M. C. Escher Head."

Jim Neiswinter also responded to Rick Beale's question about the origin of the term Booby Head. He doesn't think anyone knows why it started, but the first time he ever saw it used was in Edward Cogan's catalogue of his November 1858 sale of large cents.

Hugh Bodell responded to Rick Beale about Booby Heads by saying that an art professor friend of his says the booby heads have an undersized ear that is out of place. Perhaps that was noticed by others who named it.

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SWAPS AND SALES

EACers are invited to submit their ads for inclusion in this column. Ads up to twelve lines are free. ADS LARGER THAN 12 LINES MUST BE SUBMITTED CAMERA-READY, AND PAID IN ADVANCE. A full-page ad is \$150. Graphic and halftone setup is an *additional* \$60 per page. One-half page is \$75. One-third page is \$50. Ads should be limited to early American Coppers or tokens. Deadline for material to appear in the January 2010 issue is December 31, 2009. All ads must include the individual membership number of a current member in good standing. Copy should be sent to the Editor, Harry E. Salyards, 606 North Minnesota Avenue, Hastings, NE 68901.

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coins@davissons.net

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ROD BURRESS, EAC #109

9743 Leacrest
(513) 771-0696

Cincinnati, OH 45215

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Xylol, 4 oz. bottle, plus 100 wooden stick Q-tips \$4.00
Acetone, 4 oz. bottle, plus 100 wooden stick Q-tips \$4.00
Wooden stick Q-tips: \$4.50 per 500, \$8.50 per 1000.
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Cast Iron Notary Machine, unconverted, for the do-it-yourselfer \$16.00
Heavy Duty 28 lb. Kraft 2 x 2 coin envelopes, in gray, white, or brown:
\$4.75 per 100, \$20 per 500, \$38 per 1000. (send SASE for samples)
Cotton Liners, 100 percent soft cotton flannel interior; fit inside standard
2 x 2 coin envelopes – package of 100 for \$29. (send SASE for sample)
VIGOR 10x Triplet magnifying glass: very high quality optics – aplanatic, achromatic,
with extra wide 1 3/16 inch lens. The best glass on the market to my knowledge
for its size and price. \$59 each, with cord.
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MABEL ANN WRIGHT, EAC #78

1468 Timberlane Drive

St. Joseph, MI 49085

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Greg Heim, EAC # 3619 P. O. Box 277 South Plainfield, NJ 07080-0277
(908) 405-6408

WANTED: Colonials, Half Cents, or Large Cents for consignment on eBay, which have a "per lot" average of at least \$150.00. I provide basic, straightforward auctions in a "no reserve" format with excellent images and customer service. Please call or e-mail to request my fee structure. Go to my website at www.gynandroidhead.com for more information.

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EARLY COPPER AUCTIONS

Bob Grellman, EAC #575 P. O. Box 161055 Altamonte Springs, FL 32716-1055
(407) 682-9592 (home) (407) 221-1654 (cell) email: ljefferys@cfl.rr.com.

Consignments for Auction: I am accepting consignments for all McCawley & Grellman (M&G) Auctions, including the annual EAC Sale and C-4 Sale (Colonial Coin Collector's Club), as well as auctions at commercial venues. Call for details and the options available.

Late Date Large Cent Book: *The Die Varieties of United States Large Cents 1840-1857* is available for immediate delivery. Every known die variety and die state of 1840-1857 cents is fully described, with additional rarity information for rare die states. The book is a deluxe hardbound edition, 464 pages, over 100 photos. Price is \$100 postpaid. Autographed on request.

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EAC # 1540

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Alan V. Weinberg EAC #1899 23321 Aetna St. Woodland Hills, CA 91367
larislw@aol.com (818) 348-3749

I've completed my collection of raw Extremely Fine to Mint State 1793 Chain cents and am seeking to complete my collection of raw EF-40 to AU-58, EAC standard grading, 1793 Wreath cents. I still need Sheldon 5, 8 and 9. Immaculate planchets, "hard" non-porous surfaces, good glossy color, absolutely free from any rim dents or dings, in EF-40 to AU-58 by EAC standards. Sheldon 5 will be tough but S-8 and 9's are plentiful, or at least they once were until they were swallowed up in type sets and registry collections. I will pay top price for the right coins.

I also seek pre-1900 American gold and silver historical or Agricultural / Mechanical Society award medals and rare territorial trade tokens.

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David F. Fanning

Numismatic Literature



Auction III — December 3

We will be conducting our third mail-bid auction of numismatic literature, closing on Thursday, December 3. The sale includes a number of works of interest to collectors of early American coins, tokens, paper money and medals.

Printed catalogues are available upon request; the sale may also be downloaded from our Web site. Contact us today to be added to our mailing list, and see our Web site for additional information.

David F. Fanning Numismatic Literature
PO Box 132422
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1856 C-1 Coronet Head
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